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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. X. PITTSBURGH, MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 16, 1872. NO. 84.

FIRST EDITION.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE

Excitement in the French Assembly.

The Right of Petition Discussed and Denied.

The Monarchist Journals Jubilant.

Rumored Resignation of Bismarck.

Another Exciting Debate in the French Assembly—Gambetta Defies the Monarchists.

PARIS, December 14.—In the Assembly today M. Duval asserted that the petitions which were being brought forward for the dissolution of the Assembly were irregularly signed, and were evidently the work of agitators. M. Gambetta denied this assertion, and said the country had given manifestations of its dissent from the policy of the Assembly by returning Republican candidates at the recent elections. The crisis just passed rendered the people's desire for the dissolution of the Assembly universal and invincible. He would refute these calumnies upon his party, and defied the monarchists to establish a monarchy, declaring that neither would a king accept nor the people ratify it. M. Gambetta was passionately interrupted from the Right. M. D'Audiffret Pasquer followed with a speech violently attacking the radicals. He declared that the horrors of the rule of the Commune in Paris were the fruits of the application of their principles of government. The debate was adjourned to be resumed at nine o'clock this morning.

PARIS, December 15.—The sitting of the Assembly was resumed at nine o'clock last night. Minister Dufnare addressed the House in favor of rejecting the petitions for dissolution. He spoke first formally of Gambetta, whose speeches he said were the cause of the present needless agitation. Speeches followed from members of all parties. The debate was one of the most violent and exciting which has taken place in the Assembly, and lasted until one o'clock this morning, when the Chamber by a vote of 509 to 201 rejected the petitions and passed to the order of the day. President Thiers was not present during the debate either in the afternoon or evening. Before adjourning the Assembly adopted a resolution directing M. Dufnare's speech be placarded in all the Communes of France. A similar resolution with regard to the speeches of radical deputies was voted down.

The monarchist journals are greatly pleased with the stand taken by Minister Dufnare. The radical press manifests a tone of indifference and declare that they will continue the agitation for dissolution.

LONDON, December 16.—A Paris dispatch to the *Times* says it is more than ever evident that the majority of the Assembly is in direct opposition to President Thiers. One or the other must yield. The country supports the President.

Government for Porto Rico.

MADRID, December 14.—The *Gaceta*, official, to-day publishes a royal decree establishing a municipal organization for the colony of Porto Rico. Some journals protest against this action of the crown.

Bismarck's Resignation Likely to Cause a Crisis.

BERLIN, December 15.—The rumors of Bismarck's resignation of the Presidency of the Prussian Council excites much newspaper comment, the tenor of opinion being that the leadership of Prussia in the affairs of the German Confederation is essential to the leadership of Germany in the affairs of Europe, and that Bismarck's retirement is likely to create an important crisis.

LONDON, December 16—5 A. M.—A special dispatch from Berlin says Prince Bismarck is looking exceedingly well. He will perhaps consent to remain at the head of the Prussian Cabinet if Ministers Selchow and Itzenplitz, who oppose the reconstruction of Hersenhaus, resign.

Case of the German Army Bishop.

BERLIN, December 15.—The Disciplinary Court yesterday decided that it was legally incompetent to try the case of the army bishop, Nanczanowsky, who was arraigned for inciting chaplains to disobey the orders of the Minister of War.

Death of Mrs. Disraeli.

LONDON, December 15.—Viscountess Beaconsfield, wife of Right Hon. Benjamin Disraeli died at noon to-day.

LONDON, December 16, 5 P. M.—All the journals this morning express the warmest sympathy with Disraeli in his affliction. Mr. Disraeli's health is failing.

Suppression of Religious Orders in Rome.

ROME, December 15.—The Committee of the Chamber of Deputies, who have had under consideration the religious corporations bill at their sitting yesterday adopted a resolution declaring that the suppression of the Society of Jesus, including the chief establishment of the order in Rome, is imperatively demanded by interests of the country. The announcement of this action was received by the Liberal Deputies with enthusiastic applause.

The Austrian Budget for 1873.

VIENNA, December 14.—Herr De Pretis, Minister of Finance, to-day submitted to the Reichsrath the budget for 1873. The Minister stated that it was estimated that the receipts would exceed the expenditures by one million five hundred thousand florins, mainly in consequence of increased revenue taxes.

European Markets.

LONDON, December 14.—Consols for money 91⅝@91¾; account 91¾. American securities—5-20s, of '65, 91¾; do '67, 92; 10-40s, 88½; new 5s, 93½; Erie, 40½.

PARIS, December 14.—Rents 54 francs 30 centimes.

LIVERPOOL, December 14.—Cotton quiet and steady; middling upland 10¼d; Orleans 10¼d; sales 12,000 bales, including 2,000 bales for speculation and export. Red winter wheat 11s 10d. Flour 30s. Corn 28s 6d@28s. Cheese 63s. Cumberland middles, 39s; short rib middles, 40s. Tallow 43s. Petroleum—Refined, 19½@20½.

Inundation in France—Portion of Nantez Under Water.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 14.—A dispatch from Nantez reports that the river Loire had overflowed the adjacent country and flooded the quays. The lower quarters of Nantez were entirely under water, presenting a fearful spectacle. The custom house and all the business houses in the flooded section were closed. Great destruction of property is apprehended. The railways are covered with water and travel interrupted.

New Confederation in Central America —Volcano in Eruption.

PANAMA, December 4—[By mail].—A movement is again on foot for the forming of a Confederation of the five republics of Central America. A circular on the subject addressed to the press of Central America was issued in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, on the 18th of October. The form of government of the United States is proposed as that of the new confederation.

The volcano Santa Rua, in the north of Salvador, has lately become active, and is in much more danger will be caused therefrom to the valuable coffee estates in that neighborhood, situated as they mostly are on the sides and at the base of the mountain.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

John Miller was killed and Michael Garskel fatally injured at Jersey City, Saturday, by the careless backing of a train while they were at work repairing a car.

Blakeslee, who recently attempted to wreck the New York and Boston express train near Windsor Locks, was sentenced to an imprisonment of ten years.

In Boston last week there were some fifty-one deaths from small pox.

William H. Wadleigh, for robbing the Merchants' National Bank, of Boston, while its discount clerk, has been sentenced to five years imprisonment.

The United States troops stationed at Little Rock, Ark., have been ordered to New Orleans. It is understood the Fourth regiment of infantry takes their place.

The new Supreme Court was opened Saturday in New Orleans and commenced business.

The Jockey Club held their second day's meeting at New Orleans on Saturday. The first race was won by Belle Buckle, time 2:09¼; second race by Filatim, time 4:04; and the third race by Village Blacksmith, time 1:57½, 1:56 and 1:56. Weather fine, track a little heavy and attendance light.

One hundred more destitute Italians arrived at New York, on Saturday, from the same section as that from which the others have come.

The Alabama Legislatures meet to-morrow, both having agreed to the compromise of Attorney General Williams.

John F. Kensett, a distinguished landscape painter, died suddenly in his studio, in New York, Saturday afternoon.

Three thousand one hundred and fifty-five dollars have been forwarded from New York for the relief of sufferers by the recent inundations in Italy.

The counsel in the case of Stokes, indicted for the murder of James Fisk, say they will be ready to proceed with the trial on Wednesday.

The steamers Spain, from Liverpool, and Rising Star, from Aspinwall, arrived at New York yesterday.

The United States storeships Supply and Guard have been detailed by the government to carry goods of American exhibitors to the Vienna International Exposition.

The Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York has abandoned, for the present, its plan of reduced premiums, which caused such commotion in insurance circles.

Four hundred and seventy-one horses have died in Cincinnati from the epizooty in the last four weeks.

Dr. John W. King, of Covington, Ky., accused of illegal practice in causing the death of Florence Ritter has been acquitted and fully exonerated by the civil court in Covington.

The Very Rev. Thomas Mulvey, Vicar General of the Catholic diocese of Virginia, died Sunday evening of his residence in Petersburg, aged sixty-three.

The Old South Church, Boston, pewholders have voted—29 to 27—in favor of leasing the building for a postoffice.

Wm. Gardner, who has been on trial, charged with poisoning Isaac Waters, of Bedford, last March, was acquitted on Saturday in Cleveland.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, December 14, 1872.

NEW POLITICAL ORGANIZATION.

A new organization, called the Tammany Central Association, has just started, having among its members John Kelly, Abraham R. Lawrence, and other notable citizens.

CRIMES.

Acton Auer was to-day arrested for attempting to forge checks on the Seventh Ward National Bank in the name of John Harper, Jr.

A special agent of the postal department arrested five men named Elliott, Somer, Klopskey, Coden and Cohen, charged with having stolen since October about one thousand mail bags from the postoffice in this city. Two others are also to be arrested.

Thomas Dunham was arrested to-day for attempting to negotiate a bond of the State of Mississippi which had been raised from six dollars to five hundred dollars. Dunham had on his person bonds representing forty thousand dollars, all of which he admitted were altered.

It is understood Stokes's trial will come of next Wednesday.

NEW YORK, December 15, 1872.

UNDERGROUND PROJECT ABANDONED.

Commodore Vanderbilt has abandoned, for the present at least, his underground railroad through this city, and it is said will apply to the next Legislature for permission to extend the road to the Battery, where he expects to obtain from the city a large tract of land whereon to build depots and warehouses.

THE FIFTH AVENUE HOTEL FIRE.

The Fire Marshal says the fire in the Fifth Avenue Hotel originated in Mary Grove's room, and was carried by the elevator to the dormitory occupied by scrubbers, who were suffocated before burned, inasmuch as the flames had to burn from the hallway through the partition walls, occupying fifteen or twenty minutes.

NEWS NOTES.

A meeting, composed mainly of foreigners, was held last evening, at the Cooper Institute, in aid of the widows and orphans of the Paris Communists.

The several Federal Marshals and Supervisors who served on election day will be paid some $75,000 during the week.

The ninth annual dinner of the Dartmouth College Alumni will be held next Thursday evening. Among the expected speakers are Chief Justice Chase, Senator Patterson, of New Hampshire, Governor Noyes, of Ohio, Dr. John Lord and Harvey Jewell, of Boston.

The Society of the United Nationalities have elected General Sigel President for the ensuing year.

A Sunday paper states that the murder of Maud Merrill by her uncle, Rose, P. Beakley, was caused by her refusal to continue to pay him a share of her earnings, and that she was her real seducer.

The Cincinnati express train going west, on the Erie Railroad, was thrown from the track yesterday at Basket station. Fortunately no one was injured.

THE MURDERED CHILDREN.

Funeral Services at Columbiana—Great Crowd of People in Attendance.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

COLUMBIANA, OHIO, December 15, 1872.

The funeral of the two little Porter girls, murdered by their unnatural father last Thursday, took place to-day. The services had been announced to take place at the M. E. Church at 10 A. M. At an early hour the people began to pour into the church. By nine o'clock every seat was occupied, and by ten o'clock every inch of standing room in the large edifice was filled to suffocation—and still hundreds had to linger outside unable to get in. As ten thirty the funeral procession took it with difficulty that the casket containing the two little children could be taken up to the pulpit. The services at the M. E. Church were very appropriate and impressive. He laid the cause of the crime to the use of intoxicating liquor, which no doubt it was, indirectly. After the services the corpses, still beautiful in death, were taken to the vestibule, so all might see them as they passed out of the church. It took nearly one hour for all to pass out. It was by far the largest funeral that ever took place.

CASUALTIES.

Another Fatal Gunning Accident.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

DRESDEN, OHIO, December 14, 1872.

Joseph Camp, a young man about twenty years of age, residing near Wakatomaka, Coshocton county, was accidentally shot this morning with a gun in the hands of David Fry, the ball entering the back and passing through the liver. He died in about three hours after the accident. The gun caught on some brush and was discharged.

Passenger Train Thrown from the Track.

MILWAUKEE, WIS., December 14.—The passenger train that left here at three P. M., for Oskosh, over the northern division of the Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad, was thrown from the track by a broken rail, ten miles out. Several passengers were slightly injured. One named Edward Bevey, of Milwaukee, had his ribs broken, and it is not considered fatal.

Boiler Explosion—Four Men Killed and Three Others Dangerously Wounded.

ST. LOUIS, December 15.—On Friday afternoon last a boiler in Waugh's saw mill on Black river, Wayne county, in this State, exploded with a terrific force, mill literally blown to atoms, pieces of the boiler hurled a great distance and fragments found nearly a quarter of a mile from the mill, and what was left of it rolled out flat. Four men, employes of the mill, were killed outright and three others dangerously wounded, but their names not ascertained. The clogging of the boiler does with mud is supposed to be the cause of the explosion.

Caving In of a Trench—Four Lives Lost.

ST. LOUIS, December 15.—A ditch, thirty feet deep, which is being dug on the premises of the Insane Asylum, to lay water pipes to that institution, caved in yesterday afternoon and buried five workmen. Pat Hannon and Austin Varnum were taken out dead, and the bodies of Jas. O'Donnell and Nicholas Knauss still remain in the trench and will be taken out to-morrow. James Small was rescued alive and unhurt, having been protected by some shovels and boulders at the bottom of the ditch. The trench was not braced, which caused the accident.

CRIMES.

Convicted of Manslaughter.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WARREN, OHIO, December 15, 1872.

The jury in the case of the State of Indiana vs. Sylvester Proctor, charged with murdering Nicholas Webber, have rendered a verdict of guilty of manslaughter and assessed his punishment at three years in the State Prison. This case has been twice heard on *habeas corpus* proceeding, and has been twice before the Supreme Court. This is the second trial before a jury, the first failing to agree a year ago. Over a thousand dollars has been consumed in the trial and every point thoroughly contested.

Post-master Robbing the Mails.

CINCINNATI, December 14.—Thomas Sanderson, deputy post-master, Springfield, Ohio, charged with robbing money order letters of $2,000, waived an examination before the United States Commissioner yesterday, and was held to answer in $5,000.

FIRES.

The Business Part of Chesterville, S. C., Burned—Loss $150,000.

NEW YORK, December 15.—The *World's* special says: At two o'clock this morning a fire broke out in Chesterville, S. C., and before the flames were extinguished half the business part of the town was burned. The loss is estimated at $150,000, about half insured. The fire is thought to be incendiary.

Destructive Fire in Toledo—Loss $250,000—One Fireman Killed and Several Injured.

TOLEDO, O., December 15.—Early this morning a fire broke out in the block on the corner of Lafayette and Ottawa streets, occupied by Warren & Bidwell's coffee and spice mill, which with its contents was entirely destroyed. Crossing the street the fire spread to a block of four stores, occupied by Anliker, Halstead & Co., tobacconists, and the Ohio Stove Works, which was also destroyed, loss $250,000. Insurance about $200,000, mostly in Eastern companies. The buildings were all owned by Mrs. J. C. Hall and Mrs. Alfred Isaac. Fireman Frederick James Wilkes, while attempting to escape from the third story by sliding down the line of hose, lost his hold and fell to the ground and was killed. John Kaes, another fireman, had an arm broken. Several others received slight bruises by falling from the walls.

THE WEATHER.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., December 15, 1872, 8 P. M.

PROBABILITIES.

In the Middle and Eastern States northwesterly and northerly winds, generally clear weather, lower temperature and slightly increased pressure. In the Northwest diminishing pressures, higher temperatures, southwesterly to southeasterly winds and partly cloudy weather will prevail, and extend over the Lower Lakes, and to northwest to Ohio valley and Tennessee. In Gulf and South Atlantic States southwesterly and northwesterly winds, cloudy but clearing weather, with occasional light rain to-night, high pressures and slightly reduced temperatures. In lower lake and Canadian regions northwesterly winds, partly cloudy and clearing weather, with higher barometers and slightly decreased temperature. The rising rivers will probably be Detroit, Toledo, Cleveland, Buffalo, Rochester and Oswego.

RAILWAY MATTERS.

The New Jersey Railroad War.

NEW YORK, December 14.—Yesterday Mr. Theodore Cuyler, of Philadelphia, made the closing argument on behalf of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company in their suit against the National Railway Company. In his speech he argued the right of the State to authorize the building of other roads, but claimed that the State had never given such authority. The contract between the State and the United Companies was one, he said, for which the companies had paid a valuable consideration. He denounced the Stanhope and narrow gauge charters as frauds upon the State, and as the offspring of private legislation. This argument closed the case, which now rests with the Vice Chancellor for decision.

Municipal Aid Voted.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

IRONTON, OHIO, December 14, 1872.

The upper township of Lawrence county, including the city of Ironton, voted to-day one hundred and thirty thousand dollars for a railroad up the river. The vote stood thirteen hundred and thirty-six for and twenty-two against.

A Decision Upon Sunday Liquor Selling.

NASHVILLE, December 14.—The Tennessee code prohibits sales of spirituous liquors on Sunday. Under this law many Nashville beer sellers were indicted and fined by the Criminal Court of this county. A test case, Weltmueller vs. the State was argued on an appeal in the Supreme Court several days ago, by Jno. Lellyett and Jno. Lawrence, of the Nashville Bar, for the plaintiffs, and Attorney General Heiskel for the State. The Court, through Judge Nicholson, rendered a decision to-day, stating that there is a difference between spirituous and fermented liquors, and declaring that the statute did not prohibit sales of wine and beer, they being fermented liquors. The decision gives great satisfaction to German citizens.

Hon. A. G. Curtin Lectures on Russia.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

BELLEFONTE, PA., December 14, 1872.

Hon. A. G. Curtin lectured in this place this (Saturday) evening, to a crowded house, on Russia. The intricate and romantic history of this wonderful people was a fit theme for the eloquent ex-Minister. His familiar, rich, sympathetic voice was as marked as his taste and culture are delicate and rare. The manner in which he held the attention of his large audience for over two hours shows that he is equally at home at the lecturer's desk as on the stump.

GREAT POLAR CONTINENT.

A VALLEY OF MASTODONS.

Exploring a Mine of Ivory---A Mountain of Ice One Thousand Feet High.

[From the Courrier des Etats Unis.]

The ship Cadmus has arrived at San Francisco on its return voyage from the Arctic Ocean, whither it had gone to collect the remnants of the shipwrecked whaling fleet. On the 25th of September the Cadmus received from the captain of the whaler George Robbins certain dispatches addressed to the French Geographical Society by our countryman, M. Pavy, now on an expedition to the North Pole. These dispatches are dated the 25th of August, on the eastern coast of Wrangel Land. We present an analysis of the interesting document which have been brought by the Cadmus:

The expedition, composed of M. Octave Pavy, commander, Profs. Thomas Newcomb and Henry Edwards, of San Francisco, M. Jean Brail and four seamen, landed on the 15th of June on the eastern coast of Hoyuchin bay. On the 24th of June the explorers, reinforced by eleven natives, started in the direction of the east, along the north bank of the Siberia, having provided themselves with sleds and dogs. On the 11th of July they reached the mouth of the river Petroliz. Near the mouth of this river they encountered

IMMENSE FIELDS OF ICE MOVING

in a northeasterly direction. They traversed one single plain of ice sixty miles in extent. Their bearings indicated a deviation of eighteen miles from their intended course. This was caused by the movement of the ice, this fact going to confirm the theory of M. Pavy concerning the concentration and augmentation of the great Japanese current, known as the Kii-Ra-Sirod, which flows through Behring Strait on the right, and thence toward the east on the coast of Siberia.

The explorers reached the shores of Wrangel Land near the mouth of a great river, running from the northwest, and which is not set down on any chart. This M. Pavy considered as confirming another of his theories that there exists a great polar continent, and of which the temperature is sufficiently warm to melt the snow. The current of this hitherto unknown stream flows in an easterly direction along the coast, with a rapidity of six knots an hour.

M. Pavy and his party followed the plain of this river toward the north for about sixty miles. The plain is uniformly level, its width varies from fifty to one hundred miles, and it is bounded on the banks of great height, with many perpendicular peaks. About eighty miles from the mouth of the river the travelers found upon the plain

THE REMAINS OF MASTODONS,

and on clearing away the snow in a place where tusks were visable, they brought to light the enormous body of one of the animals of an extinct race, in a perfect state of preservation. The skin was covered with black and streaked hair, very long and thick on the back. The injected tusks were full feet eight inches in length, and were curved up to a level with the monster's eyes. The animal was in a kneeling posture, the fore legs bent, while the hind parts were deeply imbedded in the snow, indicating that the animal had been in passing for St. Louis in struggling to get out of a mire hole or snow drift.

THE MASTODON IDENTICAL WITH THE ELEPHANT.

Prof. Newcomb carefully studied the anatomical characteristics distinguishing the extinct mastodon from the elephant of to-day. He took from the stomach some specimens of bark and herbs, the nature of which he recognized. Near the spot, on a well built space of many miles the plain was covered with the remains of mastodons, indicating that a numerous drove of these gigantic animals had met their death, owing to some sudden change or convulsion of nature. The region was found to be rich in characteristic fossils of the mastodons.

About one hundred and twenty miles from the coast, and in a league from the river rises an ice mountain about a thousand feet in height, the base of which is surrounded by a belt of rock, which is imbedded in the sill. The smoothness of these rocks and their rounded forms prove that a wave at one time in the back of a river, from which they have been cast up by some strange phenomenon. Arctic animals are found in great numbers, and hundreds of Arctic birds fly about the river and its banks.

PREPARING TO DISCOVER A POLAR SEA.

At the date of these dispatches the party was preparing to winter under the seventy fifth degree of latitude, in the valley of the great river Polar continent. He had begun to lay in provisions and fuel. Both he and his companions were in good health and courage, and were confident of arriving during the coming season at the shores of the open polar sea. The cold was intense, but the temperature, at the extreme north of the continent.

THE VIRGINIA CANAL.

Give Us a Direct Outlet to the Atlantic by Water.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

The writer hereof is a sojourner in your city for a few days, and having a little leisure, begs space in your valuable journal to call attention to the bill recently introduced by your Representative, Mr. Negley, having for its object the acquisition and completion by the general government of the James River and Kanawha canals, or of the first improvement of the people living in the West, or adjacent to any of the great Western States.

Your countenpary, the *Post*—which I admire very much both for its pluck and its ability—argues with much force to the bill that it is an invasion of the rights of the States, in centralizing, hence undemocratic, and, consequently, unconstitutional. I am free to say that this is a matter which I do not profess to be truly constitutional must be thoroughly democratic. But is the contemplated work outside and beyond Democratic precedent? Mr. Calhoun admitted that the general government had to improve the navigation of the Mississippi and its tributaries, on the ground that they flowed through several States, and were under the exclusive control of no one.

Mr. Buchanan (not first-class States' rights authority, however,) recommended the building by the government of a Pacific Railroad under the warmaking and protecting power granted by the Constitution.

Mr. Calhoun was certainly a very sound States' rights Democrat, and yet he favored the improvements mentioned, and also the grant of power to Federal power to be exerted in pulling logs out of the Red River raft, or digging the Portland Canal, or making wing dams in the Ohio and Tennessee, or to make a canal around the falls of the Ohio, it is also argued by implication in the navigation of the Kanawha, and dig a canal in furtherance of that improvement. Mr. Buchanan in his message did not argue the point, I insist that it comes clearly under the Calhoun doctrine.

The citizens of Pittsburgh and its surrounding cities lead San Francisco in wealth and population, and are the principal contributors to the Pacific R. R. of number, and one-half its wealth; and California is the half-brother of Virginia. Should not the entire community it was deemed advisable for the government to interfere and connect it with the Eastern States. If the Pacific Railroad was wise and democratic, how much more so is it wise now for the present government to lend its aid in the work of building the proposed canal? The States washed by the Mississippi and its tributaries are in population and wealth almost equal to the Atlantic coast, and the Pacific States put together and deserve proportionate consideration at the hands of the general government. The James River and Kanawha canal is the only water way to the Atlantic ocean and should have it. According to Commodore Maury, freights are moved by water at one-fifth the cost by rail, or in other words, the money which will move a ton of merchandise one inch by rail will move a ton one mile by water. This being granted to one side, we will admit that in most instances more miles will have to be traversed by water than by rail, but the additional number of miles will not be sufficient to bring the water transportation cheaper all the way than by rail. Take as a practical illustration the difference between water and railroad transportation between this city and New Orleans. The distance by river is nearly one thousand miles, and coal is taken hence to New Orleans, say 2,000 miles, at about four dollars per ton. Now then, with the canal open, every pound of heavy freight could and would be conveyed by water between the one-half the present rates; and when we consider what the heavy freights are in tons, we begin to appreciate the immense saving to the people. Look at the vast amount of food for man and beast that goes from the West to the East, seeking a market. Figure out the tons and see if the railroad freights do not annually amount to hundreds of millions of dollars! And what adds to the saving, I think, is that the means of transportation furnished by the present railroads are not equal to the demands of commerce. As an instance: Coal from this vicinity is very much superior for gas purposes to that now coming coal in America, and on account of its good quality and the high price of English coal, is in great demand in the Eastern seaboard cities, but only a limited quantity can be furnished. It is within bounds to say that if Pittsburgh coal could be laid down in New York and Pittsburgh coal could be laid down in New York and Philadelphia at New Orleans, say from five to six dollars per ton, at least six hundred and fifty thousand tons per annum would be consumed on the seaboard for gas alone; or in the neighborhood of 1,500 tons per diem. Here is an outlet for coal and a saving for all old hands of hundreds of coal yearly for one purpose alone. Place it in reach of the lumber and iron manufacturing and other foreign ports, and you will find sale for as much or more; to coast and domestic steamers and other purposes as fuel, more. In all fully twenty-seven millions bushels; or good fifteen millions of dollars a year to the railroads, a sum equal to the seventeenth part of the whole cotton crop—to produce which almost the entire population of seven States are exclusively employed, directly or indirectly. If there is so rich a harvest to Pittsburgh in the field to be opened, what there will be something for Richmond to be gained also by Cincinnati, Louisville, Memphis, St. Louis and other important places which you can number by the score? I think so, and I think further, that prompt and positive action should be taken by the representatives of the several bodies of those cities, as well as by their town councils, to back up the Negley bill in matter which the Negley has brought forward, if this were a Pacific Railroad scheme, designed to benefit unimportant California, and bring the great Colorado desert in direct communition with the world, Washington would be flooded with petitions, papers and innumerable politicians urging the thing forward, and wishing Colonel Tom Scott success. But this is merely a matter of dollars. Why is it? Wherefore this apathy? Have you Northern people become so rich that you think that you think it useless to kick, or have you gotten so rich that you want no more? If Pittsburgh and Pittsburgh to speak out on this subject, and support her representative, and call upon all the western cities to follow. SOUTHRON.

PITTSBURGH, December 14, 1872.

A Very Singular Story of a Weasel.

[From the Newburg Telegraph, December 12.]

The following story was told to us as being a positive fact, the narrator professing to be one of the workmen who witnessed the performance of the said weasel: A party of men were prying stone in a field, and found under a large rock a nest containing four young weasels, which they caught and put to one side. Upon the return of the old weasel quite a scene ensued. She became very much excited, and very angry, and at once set out, but soon returned, and going straight to the little pail containing the drinking water for the men, and that belonging to a hand, was about to go off a second time, when she discovered her nest and her young, all alive and unharmed. She immediately left the pail and with continued jumping and pushing at it until it was overturned, thus saving the lives of the men she evidently meant to punish for the destruction of her offspring.

A BILL has been introduced into the House of Representatives by a Massachusetts member designed to insure perfect security, and at the same time convenience, in possession to the holders of government securities. It authorizes national banks to hold as trustees registered government bonds, issuing to owners certificates of deposit of equal value; the latter to be current and exchangeable, as are coupon bonds at present. Sales and transfers of a recognized authority estimates of the total capital in this line at $3,000,000,000, which exceeds that in the British railroads, costly as they are known to be, the latter having, in 1871, reached an aggregate of $2,000,000,000. We have an aggregate of 62,000 miles of completed railroads in the United States, which exceeds the mileage of all Europe. Our railroads returned an average net profit in 1871 of five per cent., whereas the English lines returned a profit of but 4.19 per cent.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

The Credit Mobilier Inquiry.

Democrats on the Anxious Seat.

Change of Feeling in the Matter.

THE NEW SUPREME COURT MARSHAL.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 14, 1872.

Will Not End in Smoke.

There has been a great amount of talk on all sides to-day in regard to the Credit Mobilier. John B. Alley was examined and denied many statements of McComb in regard to the business of the company, and the examination of Oakes Ames began. It was James Brooks, of New York, who McComb testified received fifty shares of the Credit Mobilier. The matter is opening up in such a shape that members of the committee say, with no hesitation, that the honor of the House now demands that the whole transaction shall be probed. The idea held by most persons that there was absolutely nothing in it has wholly changed, and it is now certain that the Democratic side will be quite as much implicated as the Republican. Many Republican members are urging that the investigation be made public, and some members of the committee are understood to desire it, so that there may be no room at any time for the charge that the least attempt was made to cover up anything.

Marshal of Supreme Court.

The Judges of the Supreme Court to-day balloted for Marshal, to take the place of Parsons. There were six ballots. For several ballots Major Nicolay, formerly Secretary to President Lincoln, received three votes, D. R. McKee, of Associated Press, three, and Mr. Kirk, of Ohio, and Frederick Schley, of Maryland, each one. A change of one of the latter two to Major Nicolay elected him.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 15, 1872.

Further About the Credit Mobilier.

The Credit Mobilier inquiry did not make much headway yesterday. No witnesses were examined, and the only business transacted was the decision that Mr. Ames, in accordance with his own request, might submit his testimony in writing, subject to further examination by the committee. This statement has been prepared and completed to-day, and will be presented to-morrow. Vice President Colfax has also sent a request to the committee to be permitted to make a statement of his connection with the Credit Mobilier, similar to that by Speaker Blaine, and he will probably be heard to-morrow. In his own statement to-morrow Mr. Ames will probably reply to McComb, and give his version of the affair. As already intimated, a great sensation is expected that the stock at the time of sale was worth much more than the purchase price its accrued dividend amounting to $260, while the par value was only $100, Ames will answer that all deliveries of stock were in fulfillment of bargains previously made, and in completion of contracts begun before they obtained possession of the stock. This is the only material difference thus far developed between witnesses, but in any event, the whole proceeding was subsequent to all legislation in Congress in behalf of the Union Pacific Railroad. A controversy has already arisen between McComb and his counsel and the committee, the former claiming the right to be present during the proceeding, and Black the right to cross-examine witnesses. It is understood, however, that the committee will decide to exclude McComb and Black, and to keep the investigation what they have assumed to make it, secret, except to parties implicated. It was stated by a prominent member of the Committee to-night that nothing has thus far been developed which would be satisfactory prediction of the ultimate result could be made. It has not been decided to summon any witnesses, and it is quite likely the investigation may be limited to statements of Representatives and Senators whose names have already been prominently mentioned in connection with the affair.

The Louisiana Case.

It is expected that the Supreme Court will decide the Louisiana case to-morrow, and refuse to grant a rule against Judge Durell to appear and show cause why he should not be restrained from executing the late orders.

Strong Indorsement of Senator Pomeroy.

Below is given a strong indorsement of Senator Pomeroy in the *Chronicle* this morning. The following is an extract:

"Pure and simple in private life, strictly temperate in everything, with a pleasant little family around him, he lives in a house of very moderate pretensions, which is not his own, but does not own. He is a regular attendant at church, a man of prayer, always desiring the right of strength. A firm friend, full of kindness to the poor, who daily call upon him for help. In an intimate acquaintanceship of nearly a dozen years, we have always found him ready to do a kind act, and always ready to one selfish act on his part. Of course I have heard accusations. One instance I remember, where a horrible lie was circulated against him, and gotting straight to the ears of the individual who was manufactured and pinned to the coat of some public man. Two years ago it was remodeled, and Mr. Pomeroy's name branded with the infamous lie. Again the story was republished in the West. It does seem hard to defeat Satan and his particular friends. They may succeed in underhating the reputation by which the enlightened, yet as surely as light shines he has proven a true man—true to his country, his State, his family, his church, to the poor and friendless and to God. Whether Kansas will appreciate her worthy representative or not, we can judge by the past. Christian people everywhere honor and love Mr. Pomeroy as a Christian statesman."

The Chronicle indorses this as a just tribute.

The Civil Service Appropriation.

None of the appropriation of fifty thousand dollars for carrying into effect the civil service system has yet been expended.

ARMY ITEMS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 14, 1872.

By direction of the President the board to retire disabled officers, convened in Philadelphia May 23, is dissolved. The board to retire disabled officers is to convene in New York on the 20th instant. The following is the detail of the board: General Hancock, Rufus Ingalls, Assistant Quartermaster General; Col. George W. Getty, Third Artillery; Surgeons John M. Cuyler and John Moore.

THE COLORED CADET CASE.

The following is an extract from the order of the Secretary of the Navy in relation to the treatment of the colored cadet at Annapolis: "Under the operation of new beneficial laws, all political distinctions of race have been abolished in our country. Public burdens are imposed alike upon all our citizens. Worthy members of every class alike are entitled to be fed, and fitted for and called for the service of the government. In the exercise of his undoubted legal right, a member of our national Congress, himself of African descent, nominated to the Naval Academy a cadet of his own race. In recognition of his right, the academic authorities confirmed the nomination at once, and fully and unmistakably made known to all at the academy that no imposition or inquisition on account of color or race would be permitted.

THE KANSAS BRIBERY CASE.

The case of Senator Caldwell, of Kansas, charged with bribery, was taken up to-day by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections. It was found impossible to complete the case before the recess, or by the sub-committee visiting Kansas. The examination of witnesses will begin before the committee January 15th.

SESSION OF THE HOUSE.

The House was in Committee of the Whole to-day, for debate only. Mr. Dawes, of Massachusetts, made a speech denouncing the civil service system.

UNITED STATES AND SPANISH CLAIMS COMMISSION.

The United States and Spanish Commission to adjust the claims of American citizens for damages for damages sustained in Cuba during the present rebellion, have not yet made any awards. About one hundred claims have been filed. There has been a difficulty about taking testimony in the late war, and as a remedy it is proposed by our government to invite Spain in appointing a joint commission for that purpose.

CLAIM OF THE DOUGLAS ESTATE.

Robert M. and Stephen A. Douglas, sons of the late Senator Douglas have prepared and will present to Congress on Monday a claim for $250,000 for their private cotton and other property taken, used and appropriated in Mississippi, by the Republicans for the purposes of the United States.

DEPARTMENT REORGANIZATION.

A sub-committee of the Committee on Appropriations has been examining the Department of the Interior with a view to its reorganization.

THE "HUMANE" ROTOSCRIP.

Vice President Colfax returned from New York this morning. He says, in answer to numerous inquiries, that his visit was more to relatives and friends than on business, and that he can only repeat in regard to the *Tribune* editorship what he has often said, that it remains a subject of conversation, but that nothing has been decided as yet on either side.

ELECTORAL COLLEGE LISTS.

All the lists of the electoral colleges of the several States for President and Vice President excepting three, have been sent to the President of the Senate by mail, though not more than one-third of the entire lists required by law to be delivered to him by messenger have yet been received. Louisiana sends lists from two different electoral colleges. The two go to Congress, in joint convention, with the evidence which list shall be counted on the second Wednesday of February, the time for counting all the electoral votes.

Pass Right On!

To second page, next to reading matter, and learn what Nutrina and Papoma, are worth to you.

HODGE'S THEOLOGY, Vol. third, just out and for sale by S. A. Clarke & Co., 115 Wood street.

THE DIAMOND EXPOSE.

Card from Arnold—Discovery of a Silver Mine in Kentucky.

LOUISVILLE, KY., December 16.—Philip Arnold, whose property was recently attached at the instance of Wm. Lent on account of the recent California diamond swindle, publishes a long defence in the *Courier Journal*, denying the charges against him, saying he never sold a dollar's worth of property to Lent, or had any contract with or received any money from Lent at any time. Denies the fields were salted by him, but alleges the discovery was honestly made and the transactions in regard to it were all between himself, Slack, Harpending and Roberts, and were all fair and after full investigation by all parties. Charges Lent with being in a powerful and unscrupulous ring and guilty of many swindling mining transactions privately. Arnold says he has discovered a silver mine in Kentucky worth three hundred millions, and has bought for nine millions all property in the locality of the mine. Wm. Wilson, a prominent lawyer of Harding county, where Arnold resides, passed through this city yesterday en route to California, to bring a libel suit in behalf of Arnold against the parties connected with the charges of swindling made against him. Wilson says he has been prospecting with

The Daily Commercial.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1872.

SOME time ago we made reference in this paper to the arrest of a New York merchant, charged with the novel crime of purloining the secrets of a prominent business firm of that city. The case was brought to trial a few days ago, and ended in a disagreement of the jury, the point of difference being, not upon the question of guilt, but its degree. It is to be regretted that some example can not be set, fixing the punishment for this new kind of offense.

THERE is said to be some hope that the country may presently be rid of that venerable abuse known as the franking privilege. It will be remembered that the House, on the closing day of the last session, passed a bill abolishing the same. It is now before the Senate Post-office Committee, and strong hopes of its passage are entertained by those claiming to be familiar with the sentiment of the Senate regarding the subject. The sooner the better.

IT IS to be hoped that the Credit Mobilier investigation, to which reference is made in our special Washington dispatches, may be made as searching and exhaustive as possible Let there be no whitewashing, no matter who is affected. If, as is intimated, certain members of Congress have betrayed their official trusts, the people want to learn who they are, that they may know how to deal with them in the future. The credit of the entire House is at stake. Let the committee make thorough work of the business.

THE communication elsewhere printed in to-day's paper concerning the James River and Kanawha canal project, will repay careful perusal. There is no doubt, either of the fact that the railroads cannot and do not furnish adequate and cheap transportation for our ever increasing domestic products, or of the national importance of the proposed work, in bringing the Mississippi valley into water communication with the Atlantic seaboard. The subject of internal communication never before received such general attention as is now being given to it.

LATE English papers give the details of a recent meeting of the principal iron-masters of Monmouthshire and South Wales, held to consider the position and prospects of the trade. A reduction of ten per cent. in the rate of wages was unanimously agreed upon, the step being rendered necessary in consequence of the scarcity of orders for manufactured iron, it having been found impossible to keep the work going at ruling rates. The price of rails was also reduced between thirty and forty shillings a ton. This reduction will, it is said, not only affect the iron-workers, but also the colliers employed by the iron-masters, as well as those employed by the steam coal owners throughout Monmouthshire and South Wales. Taken altogether, the condition of the trade would appear to be of a quite unsettled character.

THE Postal Telegraph bill will come up before the House Appropriation Committee tomorrow, when the whole subject will be thoroughly discussed by representative advocates and opponents of the measure. The committee expect to report a bill prior to the holiday recess. The question is said to excite more interest at Washington than any other independent measure before Congress. The National Commercial Convention, at its session in St. Louis last week, strongly favored the project; a series of resolutions being passed, urging upon Congress the immediate adoption of the recommendation of the President and Postmaster General for the appointment of a special commission to consider and report a system of postal telegraphy, with a view to the speedy purchase, upon equitable terms, of the various telegraphic franchises of the country, and their incorporation into the postal system.

THE latest intelligence from Japan would seem to effectively dispose of the rumors which have been current that a reactionary movement had set in among the authorities of that country. According to these accounts the government contemplates the immediate establishment of a comprehensive educational system, including eight universities, two hundred and fifty-six high schools, and upwards of fifty-three thousand public schools, at which the attendance is to be compulsory for all children above six years of age. An elective Parliament is also to be established, consisting of six hundred members, and divided into two Houses, but whether both are to be elective was not, at the time of the departure of the mails, clearly understood. Considering the fact that it is only eighteen years since the first treaty of commercial alliance was entered into between the United States and Japan, and only nine years since that Empire commenced to adopt any of the elements of Western civilization, its progress in the direction of popular freedom may be considered truly remarkable.

THE *World* continues its advocacy of the passage of a law establishing a uniform day for all elections of a general character throughout the country, and vehemently denies that there is anything in the proposition which in any way conflicts with or trespasses upon the local rights of the States. Republican papers, as a general thing express doubts whether Congress has the right to interfere, holding that that body has already gone to the limit of its authority in the new apportionment act, which provides that all representatives and delegates shall be elected, every second year, on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November, beginning in 1876. It is not improbable that by the time this law goes into effect, the various States may have transferred their local elections to the same date, so as to obviate the expense and inconvenience which the people now incur in going twice to the polls every second year. The Pittsburgh *Post* has as yet made no reference to the suggestion of the *World*, one way or the other, which is a little remarkable considering its intense opposition to everything which smacks of "centralization."

THE railroad question continues to grow in importance. Following the example of Illinois, the Indiana Legislature has passed a bill fixing the rates of fare for passengers and the charges for freights on all railroads in that State. Similar measures are, it is said, about to be proposed in some other States. The question as to the exact powers possessed by Congress to regulate commerce among the States as regards oppressive charges by railroads, is also before that body. A resolution having last week been adopted by the House, instructing the Judiciary Committee to inquire and report what power Congress possesses in regulating commerce among the several States, in so far as such commerce is transported on railroad and other lines of transportation organized and conducted under the laws of the various States, and whether such power includes the power to prohibit oppressive or unequal charges or discrimination made by such common carriers on freight or passengers from one State on their way through another State. There can be no possible objection to such an inquiry, and the report of the committee will be looked for with general interest.

SOME of the opposition papers, we observe, profess to discern in the action of the administration with regard to the adjustment of the legislative difficulties in Louisiana, another step in the overthrow of the rights of the States. This shows the lengths to which partisan prejudice will carry journals that are honorable and fair-minded enough in all other matters. Both wings of the Legislature, it will be remembered, had appealed to the Executive, hence it was impossible longer to ignore the situation, but instead of interfering with force, the President and his legal adviser simply proposed a ground for mutual adjustment which maintained all the forms of the laws and constitution of the State and was eminently fair and just in its provisions. The Governor of the State promptly approved the plan, as also did the Republican wing of the Legislature. Subsequent information is to the effect that the Democratic portion of the same body have also accepted the proposition. The dispute, which at one time threatened anarchy and bloodshed, was with regard to the members of the Legislature from Barbour and Marengo counties. Both of these counties are stated to be Republican by large majorities, but the Democratic supervisors of election "counted in" the eight Representatives from them. This gave the House to the Democrats by eight majority, whereas, had the Republican candidates received certificates of election, the Republicans would have a majority of eight. On this question the two parties split, and each has had a Legislature organized and passing laws, each making a quorum for itself by admitting the contestants from Barbour and Marengo counties who belong to their respective parties. The outgoing Governor, a Democrat, recognized the Democratic faction, while the newly inaugurated Governor, a Republican, recognized the Republican wing, taking the ground that the Republican candidates in the two counties contested were equitably entitled to their seats. The acceptance of the plan of adjustment proposed by the President, however, involves the practical recognition of the illegality of both existing quasi Legislatures. The question of United States Senator was at the bottom of the difficulty, the Republicans and Democrats having each made a choice for that position. A new election will probably now take place.

MEXICAN THINGS.

Favorable news continues to be received from our sister Republic of Mexico. On the first day of the current month, the successor of JUAREZ, LERDO DE TEJADA, was placed in formal possession of the office of President, and, after the manner of Southern countries, his accession to power has since been celebrated by various *fetes*, in which the people participated with a joyful enthusiasm, expressive of their satisfaction with the event. Not only in the capital, but pretty generally throughout the country, the people seem, we are told, by their actions and language to say that they are tired of political turbulence and disorder, and really desire to devote themselves to the peaceful pursuits of industry.

ONE of the most noteworthy features of the historical scene exhibited in the Republic is the conciliatory policy initiated by the new President. Having clearly shown that he had no memory for the quarrels of his predecessor, or for any of the feuds by which the country had been disturbed, and that he was ready to forget the past, he has secured the support of some of the leaders of the factions lately hostile to the government, and seems likely to secure the support of them all. The most important of these men, PORFIRIO DIAZ, in spite of his failure as a party leader, is believed still to command a degree of influence, which suffices to control the demagogues who dislike quiet times.

However, notwithstanding these promising indications it is certainly too early to predict for LERDO DE TEJADA a perfectly peaceful administration. He wisely waited for the adjournment of Congress before making any change in the cabinet which he found in office. As Congress was to adjourn on the 15th instant, we shall soon hear of the effect of the transfer. A President of the Supreme Court, the office vacated by LERDO's election to the Presidency of the republic, will be chosen on the second and fourth Sundays of February. The three candidates for this high position are all generals, namely, Generals ANZA, IGLESIAS and RIVA PALACIOS. We may suppose, though we do not know, that they are all learned in the law. Perhaps legal learning is not an indispensable qualification of a chief justice in Mexico, or the military titles of these candidates may, for ought we know, be mere complimentary decorations appended to their names. The practice of thus adorning civilians is not wholly unknown in some other republics. If these aspirants to jusidicial honors are *bona fide* military men, the fact is possibly ominous. The prevalence of brigandage in Mexico renders a reduction of the permanent military force inexpedient, and while a standing army remains a necessity of the republic, its prospects must continue clouded and uncertain.

In connection with this subject lively interest attaches, in the United States as well as in Mexico, to the fact that General ROSECRANZ's great railway project has been sanctioned by the Mexican Congress, and will certainly soon receive the approval of the President. At present the short railway connecting Puebla with the capital, and a few miles of the road intended to connect Vera Cruz with the capital, are all the railroads in the republic. The sanction given to the American general's scheme of a road which shall traverse the entire territory, is only one of the facts which promise a new era in the relations between Mexico and the United States. Even JUAREZ, if he was not strongly prejudiced against Americans, entertained a very sincere, and one may believe, foolish dread of them. His successor is free from this feeling, and courts American influence and American capital as things essential to the prosperity of the country, and in this view he has the sympathy of an increasing number of his countrymen. Before American influence Mexican brigandage, as well as some other evil things, will of course go down, and such a process will be the most trustworthy safeguard against the necessity of violent intervention on the part of the United States for the rescue of American life and property in the sister republic.

A SMALL FIASCO.

HENRY M. STANLEY's failure as a lecturer was so complete and has been made so notorious that there is no longer any reason for reserve in referring to the subject. In fact, a man who claims the attention of the American public as a lecturer, may safely be supposed to understand fully the perils and possible mishaps to which he voluntarily exposes his reputation, and therefore to be prepared for whatever fortune may befall him. In the United States the popular lecture is essentially a means of entertainment or amusement, not of edification or instruction, and the lecturer is thus subjected to the same conditions substantially as the actor. In his discourse he may aim at the instruction of his hearers, but he must entertain or at least please them at the same time. Probably a voyager just returned from an exhaustive exploration of the moon, would not succeed as a lecturer, unless he were able to impart his extraordinary and exclusive lunar observations in an interesting or effective manner. Whether the supposition be well founded or not, the assumption is certainly well adapted to afford comfort to STANLEY or any other unfortunate aspirants after the applause and the profits of the successful lecturer.

In the utter *fiasco* of LIVINGSTONE's discoverer there seems to be something bordering on the mysterious. His formal address before the Royal Geographers at Brighton was an exceedingly lively discourse, full of picturesque bits of description, and it was well enough worded throughout. Then, we had the testimony of several correspondents to the fact that in the delivery of his address and in the debate which followed, STANLEY showed great intellectual dexterity and remarkable dramatic talent. These faculties judiciously applied in the handling of such facts as he undoubtedly has at command should have secured his success as a lecturer. His failure seems to have been the result of several causes. In the first place, he tried to appear to be what he is not—a man of science and a philanthropist. Defectively educated and ignorant of all science, he undertook to discourse on the ethnology of Central Africa, and his interest in the African slave trade appears to have been too recently acquired to impart sufficient depth and earnestness to his denunciations and aspirations on that subject. In the second place, his audience were probably hostile, or at any rate unsympathetic. His first appearances in New York had excited a good deal of disgust. Fresh from the honors with which he had been crowned in England and Scotland, he indulged in remarks touching his English reception which indicated an intensely Philistine, not to say vulgar spirit. Finally, the man's antecedents are painfully uncertain and suggestive of evil surmise. While in England vehemently asserting his claim to be an American, at the Royal Geographical Society dinner given in his honor and elsewhere he made speeches which Americans of some sense and sensitiveness could not read without wishing that the speaker might be forced to own his Welsh nativity as well as his Welsh relations. They are understood to be clamorous for recognition. Perhaps they may now succeed in carrying their point.

IT is said that Gov. Jacob, of West Virginia, is unable to decide who are the Congressmen elect from that State, and accordingly a bill has been introduced in the State Legislature to determine the matter. His excellency thinks that the returns of the second Congressional election held in the State this year—viz: the election of October 24th—are so meager as to justify a doubt as to who was elected on that day.

THE Christmas number of that excellent home periodical, the *People's Monthly*, lies upon our table. It is an admirable number, and will unquestionably meet with an extensive sale. Whether considered with regard to its literary matter, the illustrations with which it abounds, or to its general appearance and design, it is every way creditable to its editors and publishers. Some of the engravings, notably the vignette, "Star of Bethlehem," "Thorwaldsen," and "A Fashionable Temptation of the Day," are really admirable specimens of art, which will suffer nothing by comparison with the most pretentious of our standard illustrated periodicals. The young folk have been particularly well remembered, a large proportion of the contents of the number having been prepared with special reference to their delectation. Nor do we think either they or their elders can be otherwise than delighted with the broad and cheery spirit of sympathy with the best aims and interests of humanity which pervades the beautiful pages from beginning to end. The number is quite worthy of as it is pleasantly adapted to the manhood's exalted suggestions of the beautiful Christmas time.

THE Chicago *Inter-Ocean* has compiled from the records an exhibit of the disasters to the shipping on the great lakes during the season of navigation of the present year. The total number of casualties was 563, being about 200 less than the four previous seasons. Of this number there were stranded, 209; foundered, 21; number of vessels which proved total losses, 6. The season up to August was unusually mild, and from that month to the close the greater number of the casualties occurred. The loss of life is stated, but is said to have been somewhat in excess of that in 1871.

THE Supreme Court of the United States, as now constituted, stands as follows:

Name.	State.	Age.	Ap'd.
S. P. Chase	Ohio	62	1860
Nathan Clifford	Maine	67	1858
N. H. Swayne	Ohio	61	1862
David Davis	Illinois	58	1862
Samuel F. Miller	Iowa	55	1862
Stephen J. Field	California	54	1863
Joseph P. Bradley	New Jersey	58	1870
Wm. Strong	Pennsylvania	62	1870
Ward Hunt	New York	62	1872

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

A Rhode Island factory boasts a bell 269 years old. It was made, as the inscription declares, by Peter Least of Amsterdem, in 1293, and was brought to this country from the West Indies among a lot of refuse metal.

The Calcutta correspondent of the London *Times* says an association has been formed in Benares for teaching the young men of India navigation and shipbuilding, and sending quick and well-conducted youths to England for education. This, if correct, is one of the greatest marvels of the time. If once caste can be so far set aside as to allow Hindoos crossing the sea, there will soon be intelligent "heathen" in abundance in England and this country.

It is now thought by some eminent railway engineers that the true advantage of the broad gauge would have been in using rails two or three times heavier than the ordinary rails, and engines in proportion, so as to be able to make a running time that would absolutely defy the competition of the common-gauge railroads.

Frequent earthquake shocks are felt along the Big Smoky mountain range, in North Carolina. The inhabitants of that region are in consternation at the recurrence of the shocks, and the adjacent valleys are filled with deer and bears, frightened from their accustomed haunts by the strange commotion of the mountains.

The Boston *Herald* protests against the bill refunding duties on goods destroyed by the fire. Every argument for it would apply as well to every fire in the country wherever imported goods are destroyed; and the Boston merchants do not need this assistance at the expense of such a precedent.

During the last fiscal year 4,641 letters "had no address whatever," and "62,337 were misdirected, the postoffice, State, or some necessary part of the address being omitted," while "312,846 were detained for postage, not being prepaid as required by law."

During the year ending August 1, 1872, the whole number of barrels of lager beer produced at Cincinnati was 436,483, or 13,530,973 gallons. To produce this there were consumed of barley 1,209,249 bushels; of hops, 991,235 pounds; of coal, 3,000,000 bushels, and of coke, 1,500,000 bushels. The ice used cost $250,000, and the 1,306 hands employed in various ways, as brewers, drivers, coopers, etc., were paid $1,200,000.

Recently the London *Morning Post* celebrated its first centenary by devoting eight of its wide columns to the reminiscences of men and things one hundred years ago. By noon a copy of the paper could not be had for love or money in all London.

A correspondent at St. Petersburg writes that the Caucasus is developing simultaneously three new branches of industry, viz., the growth of tobacco, the manufacture of cheese, and the cultivation of tea. The tea experiment so far has been a decided success. Many of the plants have not merely survived the winter without any apparent injury, but have attained a height comparatively rare even in China.

The pork packing trade in St. Louis and others Western cities is seriously compromised by the high prices of hogs in comparison with the present rates of the provision market. Unless hogs can be forced down or product up, there is like'y to be either a poor show for profit this year or a very light business done in packing.

The English Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Company have made good progress with the new French Atlantic Cable, and a portion of the line has already been shipped on board the Great Eastern. Many improvements have been introduced, with the object of securing complete insulation, and protecting the shore ends from abrasion.

A free school of political science has been established in France. This institution aims at qualifying young men for every branch of the civil and diplomatic service. It instructs ninety pupils in eight branches of study.

The presidential electors of New Hampshire, at their recent meeting, were astonished to find that not one of their number was a user of liquor or tobacco in any form. Ex-Gov. Hale, the oldest member, had never even "treated" to a glass of liquor.

A Chicago drug firm, which generally sells a ton of asafetida a year, has sold three tons of that savory article within a month, and raised the price from fifty cents a pound to two dollars. The epidemic did it.

The long protracted effort to work a railway tunnel through the Hoosac Mountain has progressed far enough to enable the mining parties working from the central shaft and one of the ends of the tunnel, to pass through at the point of meeting.

The United States Treasurer has received what purports to be a five hundred dollar legal tender note, but which really is a very neat combination of many pieces of smaller notes, split up and cut apart, and so arranged and pasted together as even to deceive one of the Chicago bank tellers. He now wishes to know if Gen. Spinner will redeem the whole fabric by sending him $100 therefore.

PERSONAL.

"Miss Grundy" thus gives her impressions of Nellie Grant in a gossipy Washington letter to the New York *World*: "I know of no young girl who has mixed at all in society who is so thoroughly fresh, simple and unaffected as Miss Nellie Grant. There is not an atom of the girl of the period about her. Her European trip, with all the attentions showered upon her by foreign dignitaries, has not changed her to all appearance in the least from the sweet, modest child-like girl of a year ago."

It is stated that Congressman Cox is going on a long voyage next summer. He expects to travel through Norway and Iceland, and as near to the North Pole as he can get. Two years ago his search was for winter sunbeams; next year it will be for summer icebergs.

The country has come to have quite an interest in the Hon. William F. Cody, of the Nebraska Legislature, otherwise "Buffalo Bill," and to feel under obligations to him for many little services, among the latest being the diplomatic one of organizing the hunt for Grand Duke Alexis. Probably few of his domestic antecedents are known to the public at large, and they have not been many or striking. Born in Iowa, forty years ago, he removed to Kansas when but twenty years old, with his father, and when the latter lost his life soon after, in the border war, he devoted himself to the support of his mother and sisters. Since his promotion to civic honors his admirers have given him a public dinner at Omaha. He appeared dressed in a neat buckskin suit, trimmed and ornamented with strips of fur. At variance with the general impression of him, probably, he is slender and somewhat effeminate looking, with waving masses of long hair falling over his shoulders, something after the manner of the Byronic Joaquin. He was not sunburned, or in any way rough, and seemed active rather than strong. In his strange surroundings he was self-possessed, only blushing a little once when the chairman toasted him as the "Champion Hunter of America." To this he replied briefly as follows: "Gentlemen, speech-making is not my hold. I am proud and happy to be here, and I hope that I may be able to meet you all often under similar auspices. Now, how is that—auspices?" His question called out a general laugh, and under cover of it he subsided into silence.

A strange circumstance lately transpired in England. It was announced to the people of Deptford that Miss Eliza Cook, the well known poetess, had just died in that town, and the fact was telegraphed all over the world. It now turns out that *the* Miss Eliza Cook, the poetess, did *not* die, although a lady of that name did depart this life at Deptford, and was buried under a misapprehension that she was really the authoress. It appears that the deceased lady in question had resided for more than two years with a Mrs. Ford, of Deptford, and that the latter received a periodical stipend for waiting upon her, and always understood that she was really the authoress of "The Old Arm Chair." This opinion was held also by the medical man who attended her, and the neighbors generally, until the refutation appeared in the newspapers. A crowd of two thousand persons attended the funeral, and great sympathy was manifested, the crowd breaking open the doors of the church and pressing forward to look at the hearse.

A brother of Sergeant Bates, the flag bearer, is at Terre Haute in a line of business similar to the Sergeant's. He shoulders a hod full of mortar, and marches from one end of a ladder to the other with it, without molestation from anybody.

The death is announced of Marguerite Bellanger, who played a conspicuous part in the well known scandal connected with the second Empire of France, under Napoleon the Third.

The Richmond *Enquirer* says that the marble for the memorial sarcophagus and recumbent statue of Gen. Lee has been quarried in Vermont, and will shortly arrive in that city, and be carved from the design in plaster. Means are now needed to enable the sculptor to go forward and finish the work. The total cost of the work undertaken by the Memorial Association is $20,000, of which $5,000 have been contributed; $15,000 are yet required. At the surest and readiest way of raising this sum the Association of the Army of Northern Virginia, in its late meeting in that city, appealed to the ladies of the South to join in celebrating the 29th of January, 1873, the anniversary of Gen. Lee's birthday, in taking such steps as will secure the sum of money needed to properly adorn his tomb at Lexington.

It will be remembered that a few years ago Mrs. Annie M. Pomeroy brought suit against her husband, Mark M. Pomeroy, and was successful, the court awarding her alimony to the amount of $25,000. To secure the payment of this amount, Brick gave a mortgage on the splendid building in La Crosse, known as Pomeroy's Opera House, and containing the old La Crosse *Democrat* office. The building is now advertised for sale under Mrs. Pomeroy's foreclosure.

FARM, GARDEN AND HOUSEHOLD.

WATERING SHEEP.

Many persons are under the impression that it is wholly or quite unnecessary to water sheep more than once a day in winter, and not at all in summer, when on pasture. There could not be a greater fallacy. It is true that sheep and also horses will manage to live, and even do tolerably well in dry pastures in summer, by feeding exclusively at night. But careful examination will show that, if allowed, water will always be taken in small quantities, and usually at regular intervals, and this with advantage to themselves and profit to their owners. There can be no more vicious practice than that of watering but once a day, as many otherwise good farmers do. It has been pretty well demonstrated that a large amount of water taken at any one time is detrimental to health, and especially to fattening animals, as producing an unnecessary amount of carbonic acid. Besides, in winter, sheep as well as other animals, when they are watered regularly, will take so much that it chills them, or, if very cold, will not drink at all. But if allowed freedom to drink at will, they will consume only just enough, and that at regular intervals. Therefore free access to water, both summer and winter, or watering regularly not less than twice a day, ought to be regarded as indispensable by every flockmaster. If there is a shepherd who is not aware of the difference there will be in the condition of sheep that have and of those that have not, been thus watered during a winter, he has but to try it to be convinced.

TO PREVENT SOWS DESTROYING THEIR YOUNG.

Recently a correspondent inquired for a remedy in cases where sows ate their young. We find the following in a monthly report of of the Department of Agriculture, which, although it does not seem to furnish a remedy likely to be generally applied, we give it for what it is worth. No one but the breeder who has the misfortune to see a fine litter of pigs destroyed by their dam—herself perhaps the best sow in his pen—can have a realizing sense of the annoyance and bitter disappointment such an occurrence involves. The report says:

It is well known that sows not unfrequently attack and destroy their young; or, if prevented from this, will not let down their milk, so that the young pigs necessarily die from want of nourishment. When this condition of things is not caused by a diseased condition of the uterus, it is said that the sow can be brought to terms by pouring a mixture of ten to twenty grains of the spirits of camphor with one to three of the tincture of opium, into the ear. The sow will immediately lie down on the side of the ear to which the application was made, and remain quiet in this position for several hours without interfering with her pigs, and on recovery from the stupor will have lost her irritability in regard to them. The experiment has been tried in Germany hundreds of times, according to one of the agricultural journals, without any injurious effects. It is also said that the eating of pigs by their parent sow can be readily prevented by rubbing them all over with brandy, and making the same application about the nose of the sow herself.

WHEN TO APPLY FERTILIZERS.

Professor Voelcker, of the English Royal Agricultural Society, reports as follows on recent experiments:

A considerable percentage of the nitrate of soda was carried off in the drainage, when applied as a fertilizer. The soil did not retain the whole of the salt nor of the assimilable nitrogen. Being readily dissolved in the soil, it should not be applied till late in the spring, according to the climate and season. The sulphate of ammonia stays in the ground better than the nitrate of soda, and should be sown two weeks earlier. Potash salts and soluble phosphates at the same time. All stable and yard manure is best applied in the fall or winter. Lime, marl and gypsum may be applied in January, February and March—the earlier the better.

Mr. J. B. Lawes, of England, has a plot of experimental meadow that has had fourteen tons of stable manure every year since 1843. Plants grown on this surface have absorbed all the rain-water, so that little or none has been discharged by under drains. Similar drains under a part of the meadow not manured "have run freely several times a year." An acre of long manured land holds within 36 inches of the surface 1,610 tons of water; while the same area and depth of similar ground unmanured holds only 501 tons. These facts show how largely manuring from 1843 to 1871 changes the character and constitution of a soil. An industrious, reading and scientific farmer may make his farm what he pleases.

GREEN FOOD FOR FOWLS.

Mr. Wright, in his book on poultry, thus talks of the importance of green food to poultry that is confined:

The last requisite in the shape of diet is a regular supply of green food. Here, again, fowls kept on grass will need no attention; but for birds penned up the daily provision of it is an absolute necessity, though most beginners are ignorant of it. We will remember in our early experiences how our fowls died, we could not at first tell why; and one fine Buff Cochin cock, whose only fault was a strong vulture hock, was in particular greatly regretted. An experienced friend let us into the secret, and after that we had no difficulty in keeping fowls, even where it was often said they cannot be kept in health, viz: in a yard paved with large flag-stones. The best substitute for natural grass is a large, fresh turf thrown in daily, to each four or five hens, and even in towns it is even possible to procure this by giving children a few pence every week to keep up a regular supply. Where turf is not allowed to be taken grass may be cut or pulled, but in this case must be cut into green chaff with shears or a chaff machine. The latter plan is how we actually managed for years in a yard only sixty-seven by thirty-five feet, divided into six pens, paying some child a few pence to bring fresh cut grass daily, cutting it up and mixing it with their soft meat.

PUMPKINS FOR COWS.

From a peck of seed dropped and covered in the gaps of a corn field, a dairy of nine cows have been kept up to summer milking and the quality of the butter is super-excellent, and six heifer calves raised from the above as fat as needed. The cows are fatter, too, than a majority of the cattle slaughtered. These cows have been making about six pounds of butter per week, besides supplying new milk and cream for a gentleman's house with sixteen inmates. The pumpkins are chopped up in the mangers with a spade, morning, noon and night, about half a bushel each time when cut into pieces. They eat while being milked morning and night, and they come to the yard and go into the stable for half an hour at noon. Beets, carrots and some other roots and small ears of corn will follow, so as to keep up the milk during winter.

LIQUID MEASURE.

Sixteen large tablespoonfuls are half a pint.
Eight large tablespoonfuls are one gill.
Four large tablespoonfuls are half a gill.
Two gills are half a pint.
Two pints are one quart.
Four quarts are one gallon.
A common-sized tumbler holds half a pint.
A common-sized wine glass is half a gill.
A tea cup is one gill.
A large wine glass is two ounces.
A tablespoonful is half an ounce.
Forty drops are equal to one teaspoonful.
Four teaspoonfuls are equal to one tablespoonful.

SHEEP MANAGEMENT.

A correspondent of a Monroe paper says: "The inquiry is often made of me how I manage my sheep to obtain so large a yield of wool from year to year. Some say, 'You must feed a large amount of grain;' and when I tell them that I fed no grain to my sheep in the last three or four years, they seemed surprised; but such is the fact. If grain is fed, corn is best, and should be fed in the months of November and December, assisting nature (the animal) in its efforts to clothe itself with a heavy, warm coat preparatory for winter. It is in these months that wool grows the fastest, for the reason above stated.

"My sheep are pure-bred Spanish Merinos, and I raise no ticks. A sheep that is infested with ticks cannot produce a heavy fleece of wool. A sure and cheap preventive is to feed once in two weeks one-twentieth part of sulphur with their salt; it not only prevents ticks, but also the various skin diseases.

HOUSEHOLD RECEIPTS.

The Philosophy of Frying.—The true philosophy of frying is to have the fat at a boiling heat before anything is put into it. Being merely warm, it penetrates, and the food is "greasy;" hot, it is the perfection of cooking.

To Glaze Shirts.—To every quart of made starch add a teaspoonful of starch and one of white soap, scraped fine. Boil the starch, after adding hot water, until you have it as thick as you wish.

A New Fried Cake.—Take one cup of sugar, two eggs, one tablespoonful of butter, one teaspoonful of soda, two teaspoonfuls of cream-tartar, one cup of sweet milk, and stir in flour until thick enough. Then fry quickly.

Fricaded Beef.—Put a piece of butter the size of an egg into a skillet; sliver up some beef and put in, turning nearly all the time, till done. Put the meat in one side of the skillet, and put in a little cream, milk or water for gravy.

Corn Bread Rusk.—Take six cupfuls of cornmeal, four cupfuls of wheat flour, two cupfuls of molasses, two teaspoonfuls of soda, and a little salt; mix this well together, knead it into dough, then make two cakes of it, and put into the tin or iron pans, and bake one hour.

Force Meat Ball.—Chop a pound or two of veal kidney or any tender meat fine; mix with one or two eggs and a little butter or raw pork, some like an onion; season with salt and pepper. Do them up into balls about the size of half an egg and fry brown.

Velvet Cream.—Put a coffee cup of wine, half a box of gelatine, the juice and grated peel of one lemon, one and a half pints of milk and one coffee cup of white sugar. Dissolve the gelatine in the wine over the fire, grate in the peel and add the juice of the lemon; after it has dissolved, add the sugar; let it simmer, strain it and then add the milk; stir till cool and put in a mould.

Corn Meal Bread.—Pour over a pint of nice corn meal, one pint of hot new milk; beat this well and add a little salt, then stir in a heaping spoonfull of nice, sweet lard, beat two eggs very light and stir in also; this must be well beaten, and of the consistency of rather thin batter, add more milk should it be too thick, then mix in a large spoonful of yeast; butter the pans and set it to rise in them; when risen, have the oven of a moderate heat and put them in; bake two hours and a half to a light brown. Serve hot.

Apple Jelly.—Half tart apples, and take out the cores. Boil them till very soft in a large proportion of water; then let the apples pass through a jelly-bag, without squeezing them. Weigh the liquor, and to each pint of it put a pound of white sugar; then boil it slowly till it becomes a thick jelly, which is ascertained in the same manner as currant jelly. If you wish to have it of a red tinge, put in, when taken from the fire, a little cranberry or beet juice. If you wish to have it a straw color, put in a little tincture of saffron. If green; use the expressed juice of spinach leaves. Let it pass through the jelly-bag again; when cool, turn it into glasses.

During the Sick.

In shape, color and smell the toadstool closely resembles the mushroom, yet the one is a poisonous fungus, the other a wholesome vegetable. Many of the advertised and unadvertised slops which unscrupulous speculators are trying to persuade the credulous are "as good as Hostetter's Bitters," bear a like superficial resemblance to that inestimable vegetable restorative. Quite a number of these dangerous *fungi* have started up within the last two years, and doubtless many worthy people have been poisoned by them. Some of these wolves wear the sheep's clothing of pretended morality, and inveigh against medicinal stimulation as they vend their acid poisons; while others offer their liquid compounds of "forty rod rum" and condemned drugs under the slang names of "Eye Openers," "Morning Glories," Cobweb Cutters," and the like. Beware of them all, for they are deadly and detestable.

WILSON'S
GREAT CONSUMPTIVE REMEDY,
FOR THE SPEEDY CURE OF
CONSUMPTION, COUGHS, COLDS,
BRONCHITIS. ASTHMA. CROUP.

The greatest achievement of the nineteenth century was the discovery of this great medicinal compound, which is saving thousands who would otherwise have been victims of the grave. In fact it stands

UNRIVALLED AS A MEDICINE.

Pulmonary Consumption, or other diseases of the Lungs, are as curable as any other affection if the proper remedy is used.

JO EPH FLEMING,
84 Market street.
Sole Agent for Western Pennsylvania.

FOR COUGHS AND COLDS
USE
Dr. Sargent's Cough Syrup,
Warranted to give immediate relief. For sale by all Druggists.
George A. Kelly & Co.,
PROPRIETORS.
Wholesale Druggists, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,
NO. 61 FOURTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH.
Chartered in 1852.
Open daily from 9 to 4 o'clock, and on SATURDAY EVENINGS, from May 1st to November 1st, 7 to 9 o'clock, and from November 1st to May 1st, 6 to 8 o'clock. Interest paid at the rate of Six Per Cent., computed from the 1st and 15th of each month, and if not withdrawn compounds semi-annually, in January and July. Books of By-Laws, &c., furnished at the office.
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DRY GOODS.
Popular Prices
FOR THE
HOLIDAYS.
Jas. Caldwell & Co.
Are now offering very choice lines of
Dress Goods,
At prices ranging from 25 to 50 Cents per Yard. Also, a magnificent stock of
DRESS SILKS
AT ONE DOLLAR PER YARD.
The above Goods will be found well worthy of inspection by persons wanting Dress Goods at moderate prices for Christmas Presents, &c.
In addition to our very large stock of Fine Silks and Dress Goods we have a very complete stock of Cloaks in Cloth, silk Velvet and Seal Skin.
Also, a large assortment of
LADIES' FURS,
From medium to very fine qualities; Fine Laces, Collars and Handkerchiefs.
118 and 120 Federal Street,
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NUTRINA--PAPOMA.
NUTRINA!!!
1. It Cooks in less time than crushed wheat.
2. It is more quickly digested.
3. It is not pasty or starchy.
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8. Children will be healthy who use it.
GET IT OF YOUR GROCER.
PAPOMA!!!
Indorsed by many eminent physicians of Pittsburgh and Elsewhere. Food for INFANTS and INVALIDS. Remember that Starch is not food. It must be converted into Dextrine either in the stomach or by mechanical means. Our process saves the stomach this labor, as well as preserves the whole of the Wheat.
Get it of Your Grocer or Druggist.
Nutrio Manufacturing Co.,
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221 AND 223
Liberty Street, Corner of Seventh,
PITTSBURGH, PA.,
WHOLESALE DEALERS IN
Old Monongahela Rye Whiskies and Very Superior Old Cabinet.
BRANDIES, WINES, CIGARS, &c.
Moet & Chandon's Dry Imperial, Green Seal and White Dry Sillery.
Chas. Heidsick and Piper Heidsick.
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Burton Bass Ale in hhds. and bbls.

FOR THE ACCOMMODATION OF
THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTY
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Wanamaker & Brown,
The Popular Clothiers of Philadelphia,
HAVE OPENED A
BRANCH ESTABLISHMENT,
AT
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Four Doors above Wood Street, not far from Smithfield Street,
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Where we are NOW Offering an
UNPRECEDENTED OPPORTUNITY
TO SECURE
REAL BARGAINS
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Substantial Clothing,
FOR MEN'S WINTER WEAR.
☞ Gent's wishing to lay in a full supply of our ELEGANTLY MADE GARMENTS at LOWER Prices than the Same Class Goods have ever been sold in Pittsburgh, ARE INVITED to Inspect our Large and Varied Assortment of Beautiful NEW STYLE OVERCOATS AND SUITS made expressly for our own Retail Sales by our skillful workmen in Philadelphia, under our own careful supervision.
☞ We assure those who visit our BRANCH ESTABLISHMENT that they will receive POLITE ATTENTION and PERFECT satisfaction in EVERY respect.
☞ Samples of all our Piece Goods to Make to Order (in Philadelphia) will be shown, and Selections may be made with as gratifying results in regard to Style, Quality, Fit and Price as if the "order" had been given direct in Oak Hall, Philadelphia.
WANAMAKER'S
Branch Clothing House,
62 FIFTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH.

JOS. HORNE & CO.
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197 and 199 Penn Avenue.
RETAIL STORES.
Holiday Season.
EVERY DEPARTMENT FILLED
WITH
Choicest Goods
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Latest Novelties
Men's Furnishing Department.
House Robes and Jackets,
Silk, Woolen and Cashmere Mufflers,
White and Colored Silk Handkerchiefs,
Initial, Hem-stitched and Plain Linen Handkerchiefs, in Fancy Boxes,
Silk and Woolen Wristlets,
Suspenders and Half Hose,
New styles Bows and Scarfs, bargains on counter.
Fine Shirts, Underwear, from low to finest quality.
UMBRELLAS.
Elegant Novelties in Silk Umbrellas, with Ivory, P

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WE OFFER FOR SALE FREE FROM ALL TAXES,

$50,000 SIX PER CENT. FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS of the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad, Turtle Creek Division, at 86 and Accrued Interest.

This Mortgage is a FIRST LIEN on the first twelve miles of the Road, and is a key to the whole Road, has sixteen years to run, is an A-1 security, and pays 7 ⅌ cent. on the investment.

IRA B. M'VAY & CO.,

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Corner Fourth Avenue and Smithfield Street.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

SATURDAY EVENING, December 14, 1872.

The battle of the Actuaries still continues to the extent of two columns daily in all the New York papers, from the effective handling of "reserves" all the forces seem engaged and from the prominence given to the "mortality tables" we opine that some execution has resulted from the contest. It is safe to say that not one in ten of the average policy holders is aware of the elements which go into the composition of the premium he pays for his insurance, and that only an expert is able to see through the glamour of figures with which the dividend system has been surrounded.

As the contest now stands, it is between Professor Bartlett and the 77,000 policy holders of the Mutual Life at his back, and Messrs. Wright, Homans & Co., representing the smaller companies whose expenses are so great in proportion to their business that they cannot afford to make the reduction in their rates which the Mutual purposes doing.

It is objected that the plan cannot be carried out without injustice to existing policy holders and a decrease in their security, that the reserve of the old policies will be used as security for the new, and that the new members will be entitled to the same portion of the assets of the company as those who paid the higher rate. As we understand it, the intention is to give to the present policies the same proportion of the surplus as heretofore, they standing in relation to the present assets of the "Mutual" just as if the company should now cease to do business, the dividends on old policies being made as heretofore, while the new risks on the reduced rates necessarily taking a proportionately reduced division of surplus.

The company treat each policy as a separate account; and the dividends of each policy holder are regulated by his premiums. The old policy holders will consequently suffer no reduction in dividends in consequence of the reduced rates of premium; and those insured on the lower scale will receive correspondingly lower returns in the form of dividends; the former contributing in no degree to the dividends of the latter, but standing in just the same position as hitherto in respect to the annual distribution of profits.

The low rates now adopted by the company are equivalent to a dividend in advance in proportion to the reduction from former rates, and far more satisfactory as relieving their uncertainty of the future reduction by dividends. The object of every insurer should be to secure at once as large an amount of insurance as he can for a given payment, and he who selects an office charging high rates surrenders a certain and fixed advantage for a share in the lottery of dividends, in the adjustment of which he has no control, and the correctness of which he has no means of ascertaining.

A paper is being circulated among the policy holders of the Mutual Life in this city giving their assent to the proposed change in the premiums and sustaining Prof. Bartlett in his position, which we know has received the signatures of many of the largest holders of risks, and we hope will be signed by every policy holder, for the movement is eminently wise, just and expedient.

In this connection the New York *Bulletin* says:

"We are at a loss to conceive what possible objection policy holders can raise against the change of rates. The truth is that the company has been endeavoring in the form of premium, rarely more than is required to provide adequate security for the insured, and to pay the current expenses of management. In dealing with old policy holders the company proposes to continue to collect in excess of requirements, and to return the excess in the form of dividends; while on future policies it proposes to charge a premium more closely corresponding to actual requirements, and to return correspondingly less in the form of dividends. This certainly seems a most business-like course; and the only point we see how it concerns any except companies who, from doing a more limited business, may be unable to affect an equal reduction in their expenses, and it has long been a standing argument against life insurance that the costs of management were so heavy as to make the return to the insured utterly inadequate to his contributions; and the Mutual, in giving a practical demonstration that insurance is much less costly than has been generally supposed, has done much toward maintaining one of the most effective obstacles to insurance."

—Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cook & Co., their correspondents:

	Morn.	Noon.
U. S. Bonds of 1881	117¾	117¾
U. S. Bonds of 1862	113¾	113¾
U. S. Bonds of 1864	113¾	113
U. S. Bonds of 1865	113¾	113
U. S. Bonds of 1865 (new)	115¾	115¾
U. S. Bonds of 1867	116¾	116¾
U. S. Bonds of 1868	109¾	109¾
10-40s	109¾	109¾
New 5s	111	111
Gold	112¾	112¾
Currency 6s	122¾	122¾

—James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

Gold	112¾
United States 6s of 1881	117¾
United States 5-20s of 1862	113¾
United States 5-20s of 1864	113¾
United States 5-20s of 1865	113¾
United States 10-40s	109¾
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1865	115¾
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1867	116¾
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1868	116¾
Currency Sixes	122¾

—The following table shows the prices of railway stocks, gold, &c., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day:

December 14, 1872.	10:30 A.M.	12:30 A.M.	2:30 P.M.	3:00 P.M.
Gold	112¼	112¼	112¼	112¼
Canton	73½	73½	73½	73½
Western Union Tel	78¼	78¼	78¼	.....
Quicksilver	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pacific Mail	34¾	34¾	34¾	34¾
Adams Express	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wells, Fargo Express	.....	.....	.....	.....
American Exp'ss	.....	.....	.....	.....
United States Express	.....	.....	.....	.....
New York Central	92½	92½	93	93
Erie	52½	52½	53	53
Michigan Central	.....	.....	.....	.....
Michigan Southern	91	90¾	91¼	91¼
Illinois Central	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cleveland and Pittsb'h	.....	.....	.....	.....
Chicago and Northwest	87¾	88¼	87¾	87¾
Do preferred	90¾	90¾	90¾	90¾
Rock Island	103¾	103¾	103¾	103¾
St. Paul	34¾	34¾	34¾	34¾
Do. preferred	71	71	71	71
Wabash	.....	.....	.....	.....
Do. Preferred	.....	.....	.....	.....
Fort Wayne	93¾	93¾	93¾	93¾
Ohio and Mississippi	45¾	45¾	45¾	45¾
Union Pacific	37¾	37¾	37¾	37¾
Chicago and Alton	114	.....	.....	.....
Do. preferred	.....	.....	.....	.....
Boston, Hartford & Erie	.....	.....	.....	.....
Harlem	.....	.....	.....	.....
New Jersey Central	117¾	.....	.....	.....

*Ex-divid'nd.

—The telegraphic report of the bank statement is unfavorable, and shows a net loss of $188,125 in the legal tender reserve. The banks now hold $1,385,350 above the twenty-five per cent. required by law. The following table shows the changes in the New York city banks this week:

Loans, decrease	$ 68,900
Specie, decrease	1,489,500
Circulation, decrease	85,400
Deposits, decrease	2,103,100
Legal tender, increase	813,800

The decrease in reserve being $674,400, while the reduced liabilities call for a reduction of but $536,000.

—Messrs. Bowen & Fox, brokers and members of the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, furnish the following quotations of the closing prices to-day of the most active stocks:

Penn'a Central	56½
Phila. and Erie	27
Lehigh Navigation	37
Catawissa	51¾
Oil Creek & A. V. R.	35½
Lehigh Valley R. R.	59¾
North Penna. R. R.	50
United Co. of N. J.	194
Schuylkill Navigat'n	14
Pending	58¾

Chicago Live Stock Market.

CHICAGO, December 14.—Cattle—receipts 200 head; quiet and nominally 25c lower; sales of 1 car of steers at 4¼@5c; medium butchers' cows 3@3½c; stockers 3@3¼c; shipments 1,201 head. Hogs—receipts 10,000 head; rule fairly active during the morning at a range of $3 95@4; continued to extra closed dull and easier at $3 90@3 95 for best; shipments 4,000 head; number of hogs packed here to-day 42,000 head against 47,000 head same date last year.

WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE OIL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
MONDAY, December 16, 1872.

The following are the receipts of crude oil for the past week, with a comparison table with previous years, also, the exports of refined, together with the week's transactions:

	Receipts Crude per Bay'r R. R.	Exports Crude	Exports per Pump, Bay'r R. R.	Exports per Pump, Bay'r V. R. R.
Monday, December 9	5,918	.....	.....	4,541
Tuesday, December 10	5,759	.....	.....	.....
Wednesday, December 11	3,747	1,773	3,027	.....
Thursday, December 12	1,050	.....	.....	2,998
Friday, December 13	4,297	.....	.....	.....
Saturday, December 14	5,475	.....	.....	2,176
Total for the week	34,946	1,773	1,773	11,715
Since January 1	1,132,879	116,712	58,356	58,356
To December 14, 1872	1,146,767	118,485	61,820	.....
Same time, 1871	1,132,854	150,236	67,516	.....
Same time, 1870	941,217	170,472	51,867	.....
Same time, 1869	961,135	142,455	142,344	.....
Same time, 1868	1,042,885	168,890	457,474	.....

BUSINESS.

The oil trade during the past week has not been a satisfactory one. It looks to an outsider that there is too much negotiation going on and too little business. For instance, dispatches one day report everything lovely between producers and refiners; that the arrangements are all but closed, and that the good time has about come, when, lo! the next day another dispatch comes just the contrary. In regard to prices the same money will buy crude or refined that was demanded at the date of our last genera' review, although it appears to us that refined is a shade firmer than the raw article.

CRUDE RECEIPTS.

The following are the receipts of crude oil from all points by river and rail for the past two weeks:

	Last week.	This week.
Crude received, bbls	10,462	10,946

The following are the receipts of crude oil from all points by river and rail for the past eight years:

From January 1 to December 14, 1872	1,146,767
Same time 1871	1,132,854
Same time 1870	941,217
Same time 1869	961,135
Same time 1868	1,042,885
Same time 1867	1,240,656
Same time 1866	1,345,000

EXPORTS OF REFINED.

The following are the exports of refined oil east by the Pennsylvania Central and Allegheny Valley Railroads for the past two weeks:

	Last Week.	This Week.
Pennsylvania Railroad	1,708	1,773
Allegheny Valley Railroad	11,906	11,713
Total	13,612	13,491

The following are the exports of refined oil east by the various railroads from January 1st to December 14, for the past four years:

1869.	1870.	1871.	1872.
Pennsylvania Railroad....182,433	190,342	196,306	118,485
Allegheny Valley Railroad..442,433	518,987	607,516	601,820
Total.....884,866	689,329	707,722	720,305

Saturday.

Lullness and inactivity were the prevailing features of the market. Dealers are apart in their views, and are noting to do to make a sett lement arrangement in regard to prices. We did not learn of any transactions. Parker's is quoted at $5 45@5 50, whilst certain holders demand higher prices.

REFINED.

Dealers report a dull mx ket; no sales; standard brands for Philadelphia delivery, December, 20c, f. o. b.; on cars at works 21c. There are certainly low prices.

OIL BARRELS.

Steady; city make $2 12½@2 15; country $2 05@2 10.

[By Western Union Line.]

TITUSVILLE, December 14.—The *Herald* says: The following are the reported sales:

50 bbls upper road	$3 80
1,000 bbls Parker's	3 50
1,000 bbls upper road	3 70
1,000 bbls Oil City	3 80
1,000 bbls on City	3 80
500 bbls Oil City	3 80
1,000 bbls Parker's	3 50
500 bbls Parker's	3 50
1,000 bbls Parker's	3 50
1,000 bbls Duvall's	3 50

The market closed dull at $3 80, without buyers on upper creek.

NEW YORK, December 14.—Closing 13.—Crude in bulk without important change and closed steady; small at 12½; defined same price; shippers will n t buy unless concessions are made, which for cars refuse to grant, asking 27½c; no sales over 26½c. Cases du l at 36½@37c. Naphtha quiet and firm; sales 1,000 bbls. Philadelphia delivery; refined held at 27c.

OIL CITY, December 14.—Market dull at $3 70; lower crude and upper road $3 70.

PETROLEUM CENTER, December 14.—Market dull at $3 70; lower crude.

PHILADELPHIA, December 14.—Market dull; a w 26@ 27c; crude in bulk 12½c; shipping order 17½c; casks 3½c.

[By Pacific and Atlantic Telegraph Line.]

PARKERSBURG, December 14.—Market dull at $3 80.

PHILADELPHIA, December 14.—Crude in bulk 12c; in casks 3½c. Market dull.

OIL CITY, December 14.—Market very dull at $3 70@ 3 80.

NEW YORK, December 14.—Market very dull; crude 12½c; refined 27c. Naphtha 26c.

PETROLIA, December 14.—Market very dull; nothing doing. We quote at $3 70.

TITUSVILLE, December 14.—Market very dull and declining. Crude in tanks, $3 70@3 80; lower grades $3 60.

Crude Oil Received by A. V. R. R.

Shippers	Consignees	Barrels
Radiant Oil Works	Radiant Oil Works	.....
Sunbeam Oil Works	Sunbeam Oil Works	74
Wyoming	Wyoming Oil Works	222
Owner	Peerless Oil Works	120
Owner	Eagle Oil Works	80
J M Berry	D Big & Co	80
W Swarts	Sunbeam Oil Works	80
Wm Stewart	Oleopolis Oil Works	140
W Stevenson	Radiant Oil Works	80
O J Greer	Petrolite Oil Works	222
Owner	Eureka Oil Works	140
W Stewart	Sunbeam Oil Works	651
J Rushnell	Keystone Oil Works	72
H McKelvey	Eureka Oil Works	140
J Boehnell	Standard Oil Works	63
Dunn & Co	Eureka Oil Works	140
Aladdin Oil Works	Rellipse Oil Works	80
Boehnell	Standard Oil Works	140

Crude Oil Received by Rail and River.

	Bbls.		Bbls
Radiant Oil Works	420	Sunbeam Oil Works	772
Emerald Oil Works	1,120	Wyoming Oil Works	160
Keg Oil Works	80	Elkins, Big & Co	320
Oleopolis Oil Works	637	Keystone Oil Works	80
Radiant Oil Works	637	Keystone Oil Works	80
Eureka Oil Works	640	Star Oil Works	160
Eagle Oil Works	160	Model Oil Works	80
Total			4,891

Shipments of Refined Oil East by W. P. R. R.

Ralston & Young, 700 bbls to Waring, King & Co, Philadelphia.
Central Refining Co, 550 bbls to Logan Bros & Co, Philadelphia.
Total.....1,250

Shipments of Refined Oil East via A. V. R. R., W. P. R. R. and P. R. R.

WEST PENN JUNCTION, December 14, 1872.

Central Refining Co, 577 bbls to Logan Bros & Co, Philadelphia.
Standard Oil Works, 209 bbls to Warden, Frew & Co, Philadelphia.
Standard Oil Works, 209 bbls to Warden, Frew & Co, Philadelphia.
Lee, Frew & Co., 845 bbls to Warden, Frew & Co, Philadelphia.
P. F. Mase....11 bbls to J. H. & Co, Mc. Joy, Pa.
Vesta Oil Works, 50 bbls to Waring, King & Co, Philadelphia.
Brant & Wagner, 200 bbls to Waring, King & Co, Philadelphia.
S. Irwin & Co., 200 bbls to Waring, King & Co., Philadelphia.
Central Refining Co, 60 bbls benzole to Waring, King & Co, Philadelphia.
Total.....2,401

Shipments of Refined Oil East via A. V. R. R. W. P. R. R. and P. R. R.

WEST PENN JUNCTION, December 13, 1872.

Central Refining Co., 1,195 bbls to Logan Bros & Co, Philadelphia.
Standard Oil Works, 739 bbls to Warden, Frew & Co, Philadelphia.
Lockhart, Frew & Co, 253 bbls to Warden, Frew & Co, Philadelphia.
S. Irwin & Co, 105 bbls to Waring, King & Co, Philadelphia.
Vesta Oil Works, 800 bbls to Waring, King & Co, Philadelphia.
Total.....3,093

HOP MARKET.

NEW YORK.

December 14—The arrivals of foreign are quite heavy, with a moderate demand from the trade, of receivers to immediately realize; some sales of good to choice at 30@32c; fancy are scarce, and the Bavarian at 40@45c. American remain very firm, and are again a ¼c higher; about 200 bales new and sold in lots at 40@46c, mostly 46; and about 300 old, 9@36c. For prime new Western, 30c is now asked.

	Bales
Receipts for the week	1,100
Receipts for the corresponding week, 1871	81
Total receipts since September 1, 1872	14,850
Total receipts for same period in 1871	10,798
Imports for the week	1,100
Total imports since September 1, 1872	3,127
Total exports since September 1, 1872	1,200

The Cooperstown *Journal* of the 12th last. says: Deal ers have been attentive to purchases during the past week at 4@6½ cents for 1 r mor s, and 45c can be obtained for many lots. There are buyers who are more anxious to buy than they were when the Wisconsin stampede took place, and there are but few of the large dealers but who will accept of nothing s ort of 50 cents at pre sent. Prime qualities are quoted at 50@52c cash. Some of the above was in transit, we bav heard that as high as 60 cents has been paid for old crop hops in some portions of the hop district of this State.

WOOL MARKETS.

NEW YORK.

December 14—There has been a slight revival in trade the past two or three days, quite contrary to the expectations of dealers. A few manufacturers have made their appearance on the market and apparently anticipating an advance in prices after the holiday, have commenced purchasing freely. At the commencement of the week the market did not present a very encouraging aspect, but since the new turn affairs have taken, a very buoyant feeling prevails. Fulled and Texas continue in active request. Advices from London are not liable to the holding interest, that market closed firm. Sales during the week are as follows: Saxony fleece, 28½c; Ohio No 1 extra and above, 40@42c; 25,000 Texas, 27@42½c; 5,000 Texas washed Ohio, 42c; 7,000 Texas scoured domestic, 41 1-2c; 10,000 Buenos Ayres, 42c; 25,000 Cape Good Hope, 38@40c; 30,000 Montevideo, 40@42c; 10,000 Canada combing, 40c; 5,000 Canada fine, 37½@38c; 10,000 Canada, 37½@38c; 10,000 California, 37½@38c; 10,000 Australia, 37½@38c; 10,000 Australia, 37½@38c; 10,000 Australia

THE VERY LATEST.

THE "TRIBUNE" EDITORSHIP

The Colfax Proposition Rejected—Mr. Sinclair, the Publisher, and Mr. Ried Differ—Developments Concerning Mr. Greeley's Candidacy.

NEW YORK, December 15.—*The Tribune* Trustees held a meeting Friday afternoon, every member being present. Mr. Sinclair brought forward the Colfax proposition. It received the support of only himself and one other—six out of the eight Trustees opposing it, sustaining Mr. Ried's conduct of the paper, and urging that he be retained with no instruction save to continue carrying out the policy of Mr. Greeley's card. It was settled no change would be made in the policy of the paper as Mr. Greeley left it, without change in the controlling proprietorship. Mr. Sinclair then went to work to make up a pool of outside shareholders, to oust the controlling interest. It is understood that he with Draper and the representatives of the estates of one or two deceased proprietors, not including Mr. Greeley's, have nearly or quite made up the fifty shares needed, and propose selling at the rate of one million dollars to a combination representing telegraph and administration interests. Mr. Reid said that in case the proprietorship and policy were thus changed, he would also sell his four shares and at once retire. It has transpired to-day that in the trustees meeting Mr. Reid protested against Mr. Sinclair's proposition to abandon the ground on which Mr. Greeley placed the paper in his hands—claiming citizenship. He said Mr. Sinclair was the last man who ought to do this injustice to Mr. Greeley's memory, because it was through Mr. Sinclair's solicitation, long continued, that Mr. Greeley finally consented to become a Presidential candidate. Mr. Sinclair admitted this, but said he urged Mr. Greeley to it, and wrote letters over the country to further Mr. Greeley's chances at Cincinnati, because he knew Mr. Greeley would not support Grant, and thought the next best thing was to get him to be a candidate himself. Mr. Reid said he himself had not favored his (Greeley's) candidacy, and had discouraged Mr. Greeley from it, nearly up to the time when Mr. Greeley directed him to go to Cincinnati as his representative, but he believed in the Cincinnati platform, as Mr. Greeley did, and would not result in change of the *Tribune's* platform. Mr. Sinclair said he was opposed and the position in which Mr. Greeley placed the paper by his card and he hated writings were fully abandoned, as he understood to be now proposed.

LOUISIANA AFFAIRS.

The Articles of Impeachment Against Retiring Governor Warmouth—The Militia Surrender their Armory—The President Firm in His Determination to Sustain the United States Court.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 14th.—The Mechanics' Institute Legislature Board of Managers to-day submitted articles of impeachment against Governor Warmouth. The following is a synopsis: First, unconstitutional and unlawful ejectment of E Bowe from the office of Secretary of State; second, appointing Tangipahoa, Jas. Taylor, who had been rejected by the Senate; third, commissioning Ogden as Attorney General, Harper as Sheriff and Elmore as Judge of the Eighth District Court, when no legal returns had been made to the legal returning officers, and conspiring with them to forcibly eject Billings out of office Dibble, Judge of the Eighth District Court; also commissioning other judges and officers when no legal returns had been rejected by the legal returning officers; fourth, offering a bribe of $40,000 in the dispensation of patronage to Lieutenant Governor Dunn for the purpose to organize the Senate to suit the purposes of the accused; fifth, procuring forged returns from Ouachita parish election in different parts of the state; sixth, offering to R. H. Catlin, State Supervisor of the Election in the parishes of St. Charles and St. John, the place of an appointment as State Tax Collector, if he would make a fraudulent return of the election in those parish; seventh, exercising the functions of Governor after he was notified that he was impeached, to the derogation of the respect to the General Assembly and putting the peace of the State in jeopardy. The board reserves the right to file further articles, or to answer, to offer testimony and introduce other articles.

A bill was passed authorizing warrants of $75,000 to defray the expenses of the General Assembly. These warrants were made receivable for tax, &c.

Senator Kellogg's friends contartict the report telegraphed hence by special correspondents that his life has been threatened and that he does not go upon the streets unattended.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 14, 1872.—Dispatches were received at the War Department today from General Emory, commanding the United States forces at New Orleans, saying that upon dehand being made for the surrender of the arsenal and the dispossession of the militia forces, the arsenal was immediately turned over to the State authorities. All is quiet now.

Attorney General Ogden, of Louisiana, appeared before Attorney General Williams yesterday in the interest of the Warmouth faction, and in a written argument asked that the government would suspend further action in Louisiana matters, and was conversant with all the circumstances. Attorney General Williams contended that he could not do so. Ogden that all further argument would be useless: that the President had made up his mind to sustain the United States courts and that it was not likely he would change his opinion.

Gen. Crook's Expedition Against the Indians.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 15.—The latest advices from Prescott, Arizona, states that Gen. Crook is prosecuting the campaign vigorously against the hostile Apaches in the northern part of the territory. Five expeditions are operating in the mountains east of the river Verdi. Gen. Crook, when last heard from, was in the Mazalon mountains. The recent fruit of the campaign is that over 40 hostile Apaches were slain, many wounded and their stores and provisions in several points destroyed. His new policy is to follow the Indians constantly and hunt them down in every direction.

The bridge across the Yolokussa river at Grenada, Miss., built jointly by the Mississippi and Tennessee and Mississippi Central Railroads, was burned at five o'clock on Saturday afternoon by sparks from an engine. It will require several weeks to rebuild it.

DAILY REPORT

OF THE STAGE OF WATER, WITH CHANGES IN THE 24 HOURS, ENDING 5 P. M., DECEMBER 13, 1872.

	Above Low Water.		Changes.	
	Ft.	In.	Rise. In.	Fall. In.
St. Paul	0	0	0	0
Fort Benton	0	0	0	0
Omaha	6	3	0	0
Davenport	6	3	0	1
Leavenworth	0	0	0	0
Keokuk	2	0	0	0
Cairo	2	0	0	0
St. Louis	4	0	0	0
Pittsburgh	3	4	0	0
Cincinnati	8	2	0	3
Louisville	4	7	0	2
Memphis	0	11	0	0
Vicksburg	0	7	0	0
Shreveport	0	0	0	0
Nashville	1	10	0	0
New Orleans	1	0	0	0

"Falling.

NOTE.—New Orleans, river below High water mark of 1871.

W. E. SMITH,
Observer Sig. Ser. U. S. Army.

ADDITIONAL RIVER DISPATCHES.

Louisville.

LOUISVILLE, KY., December 15.—The river is receding with four feet three inches in the canal, and two and three inches in the Louisville Chute. Cloudy and cold. Only the packets running.

Memphis.

MEMPHIS, December 15.—Cloudy and damp. River rising slowly. Arrived—Expositor and lays up. Departed—Souls Silver, Cal. o, Fanny Lewis five up.

CITY MATTERS.

Fires.

On Saturday morning a two-story building occupied by J. Groones and owned by Mrs. Hays, located on Francis street, Thirteenth ward, took fire and was burned to the ground. The Fire Marshal will look into the cause of the fire to-day.

Yesterday afternoon there was an alarm of fire from box 15, occasioned by the burning of soot in a chimney near the corner of fourth and Penn streets. No damage.

Accidental Shooting.

Two men named Henry Felker and James Hamment entered the tavern of Jacob Roth, on Twelfth street, near Carson, in Birmingham, on eleven o'clock Saturday night. After they had taken a few glasses of the ardent they prepared to leave. While going out Hammett pulled out his pistol when it was discharged, the ball entering the leg of his companion just above the knee. Dr. Hunter was summoned, the ball extracted and the injuries dressed. As the shooting is believed by Felker to have been purely accidental, he will not make any prosecution. The two men have always been the best of friends, and notwithstanding this unfortunate occurrence still remain so.

Sabbath School Meetings.

A series of institutes for the discussion of matters pertaining to Sabbath School work, under the auspices of the Allegheny County Sabbath School Association, will be held during the present week, commencing this evening and ending Friday evening next. The respective places of meeting are as follows: Monday, December 16th, Fourth Presbyterian Church, Twelfth ward, Pittsburgh; Tuesday and Wednesday, December 17th and 18th, East Birmingham M. E. Church; Thursday, December 19th, Wilkinsburg Presbyterian Church, Twenty-third ward, Pittsburgh; Wednesday, December 18th, Christian Church, Ilazelwood, Twenty-third ward, Pittsburgh; Thursday, December 19th, Union M. E. Church, corner of Manhattan street and Virginia avenue, Allegheny; Friday, December 20th, Nixon Street Baptist Church, Sixth ward, Allegheny. A similar meeting will also be held Monday evening and Tuesday afternoon and evening, in Spencer Chapel, Baldwin township. Each meeting will commence at half-past seven o'clock, throughout.

The Building Inspector's Department.

The Building Inspector has granted five hundred and ninety-nine permits the past ten months, representing permission to build eight hundred and twelve houses. The year begins February 1st, but very few permits will be issued from this date until that time, and the above may thus be regarded as the result of the year's work. There have been very few costly buildings erected during this time, the great majority being small structures. Among the more costly ones are the residence of Wm. Smith, on Penn avenue, near Friendship Grove, which will cost $40,000; the residence of Charles H. Zug, in Oakland, to cost $16,000; the residence of Hugh Sproat at Amberson and Ellsworth avenues, $20,000; W. O'H. Scully's dwelling, on Negley avenue east of Mr. Child's, $18,000; the residence of B. le Fanu, on Dallas avenue is to cost $28,000. These are the principal private houses in course of erection. The other buildings worthy of note are Frazier Brothers' block of seven three-story stores, on Smithfield street, to cost $42,000; Morgantown's two at the corner of Fifth avenue and Market street, estimated at $85,000; new residence at the Western Penitentiary, $30,000; improvement at the Ft. Wayne depot, $20,000, and the erection of some eighteen new houses in the Twenty-second ward by the Park Place Improvement Company at an expenditure of nearly $25,000.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

The several places of amusement present strong attractions for the coming week. At Pittsburgh Opera House Dominick Murray appears in a new play entitled "A Gambler's Crime, or the Murder on the Hudson," with the stellar attraction as *Marty McNulty*, a genuine Irish character.

Mr. Aims, at the American Varieties, announces a new trio in the persons of Sam Devere, Irene Devere and Wm. Collins. These, in addition to the stock favorites, should attract full houses nightly.

At Trimble's Varieties Mike Fink, "the fly," a lady who walks the ceiling without the aid of rings, straps, &c., makes her debut, as do also Prof. Charles Fox, Dan Hoey and the Leicester brothers and others.

Next Monday evening Carncross & Dixie's Minstrels will appear at the Academy of Music, when an entertaining season will be inaugurated.

On Saturday the question was asked "what has Pittsburgh done to the beautiful snow that we have no sleigh-riding?" A correspondent answers: "How can you expect the Smithfield Street Railroad to place where its character is always blackened?" Poor old.

SOMETHING ABOUT GAS.

Report of the Gas Inspector.

Why Gas Bills are Unsatisfactory.

FAST AND SLOW METERS.

Impure Gas—No Way to Punish the Companies—A Defect in the Law, &c., &c.

Mr. Roland H. Smith, Inspector of Illuminating Gas and Gas Meters for Allegheny county, has made his third annual report to the Governor of the State, detailing the operations of the office for the year ending November 27th, 1872. The report shows that there has been a considerable increase in the number of meters tested over each of the two previous years. The Inspector has made every effort to induce the consumers of gas to have their old meters tested, and the gas companies have aided him in this work.

FAST AND SLOW METERS.

Speaking of these tests, the Inspector says: In fact, our city gas company has now begun a regular system of removing old meters for the purpose of being tested. Before bringing them to this office, however, they examine them carefully themselves, and if any way defective repair them, and then send them here to be tested and stamped before being again put to use. They also, previous to sending them to me, test them in a manner. The results of such tests, in many instances, are surprising to themselves, some being as much as from ten to thirty per cent. fast or slow. Owing to this system being adopted by this company, my report does not show so large a percentage of condemned meters as usual, as the gas company will not now send a meter to be tested and stamped without knowing that it is nearly correct. When meters are complained of by consumers themselves, they are brought here direct, without being examined and repaired by the Gas Company; should any such meter be in such a condition as not to be fit for service, it is then sent back to the company to whom it belongs, for such disposition as they may think proper, and a report of its test sent to the consumer by whom it was used, stating that it was unserviceable, was rejected and sent to the Gas Company for repairs or waste, as the test may show. By this means, all of the large meters in use in the county have been tested, some of which have again been placed in service, and others condemned.

COMPLAINTS ABOUT GAS BILLS, AND THE CAUSE.

The result of this system is that the pub ic generally seem to be more satisfied, although there are still some great complaints about the irregularity in their gas bills: some months or quarters showing a comparative small amount of gas burned, while in others their bills seem enormous. This is a trouble that I can see only one way to remedy and that would be to require the Inspector, by sworn, regular and responsible deputies at regular intervals during the year to take from the inside state of each meter carefully, report same to this office, and from such reports a complete and correct statement of each meter furnished to the respective Gas Companies, from which they could make out and collect their bills for gas consumed. This, I think, would tend greatly to allay the suspicions of consumers as to the correctness of their gas bills, and would, I believe, meet with the approval of Gas Companies. On Saturday morning the respondents appeared in court in answer to the writ, having the gift in custody. They made answer to the Court that Mary Jane's hambers was not restrained of her liberty, but was free from duress both in mind and body. In other words, that Mary Jane was not held by her father's house on account of ill treatment, and sought the protection of Wm. D. Haye et al., creditors of Harve, and her aunt, Mrs. Yalton—the wives of the respective respondents. They admitted that they had given Mary Jane money, but claimed that it was legally and morally justified in doing so. An affidavit signed by the girl was also presented in which upon her minds that should an error be made in taking the stated to the Court that she was free from duress, but considering that the irregularities thus caused in the consumer, but also in the minds of consumers as to the correctness of their bills, are numerous, and the dissatisfaction which the gas company are wanting in honesty.

In order this work may be accomplished to the Gas Inspector it would necessitate quite a large number of deputies, and would, therefore, greatly increase the responsibilities and expenses of the office. I do not think it could be so systematized as to work very satisfactorily in the Gas Inspector's office.

PHOTOMETRIC AND METER TESTS.

The Inspector then states that he has found renewed difficulty in testing the quality of the gas—several of the companies having failed to have proper rooms and instruments prepared for that purpose. He will be obliged to ask the County Commissioners this year for a sum sufficient to procure all necessary apparatus to make satisfactory tests and have furnished by those companies neglecting to furnish the same. He has furnished the Fort Pitt Gas Company, the Sharpsburg and Etna Gas Company, and the McKeesport Gas Company. The tests of the gas furnished by the Western Company was made by means of the photometer of the Pittsburgh Gas Company, which has been taken to the office in a portable gas holder. The trials were by no means satisfactory, but on account of that could be made under the circumstances. The Pittsburgh Gas Company, the Allegheny Gas Company and the Citizens' Gas Company have the apparatus for testing. Next year there will be three more companies in the county. The Consolidated Gas Company, the West Side Gas Company, and the Brickyard Gas Company. These will make nine companies in all in the county. The meters of the new companies have all been tested from the time they went in use, and the duties of the office are thereby considerably increased, the Inspector fears that before long the salary of the office will be consumed in paying the deputies required to test the meters.

NO WAY TO PUNISH GAS COMPANIES FOR MAKING IMPURE GAS.

Upon this subject the Inspector says:

The law as it now stands is an operating inflicts a penalty of five hundred dollars upon any gas company which shall not furnish pure gas, and of a standard illuminating value of fifteen candles, but it does not indict as to who shall indict, or prosecute for this penalty, that being a matter of law. I have been required to pay the penalty, although, in several instances, some of our gas companies were sure. Liable fail, for negligence on the part of the above requirements. I have felt that my duty has been, under the present law, to do nothing any negligence on the part of any gas company in complying with the law, to report such neglect, and then should any consumer bring suit for damages in the courts as Inspector would be brought into requisition, and if proved that the gas company has failed to comply with the law, the penalty would be inflicted. Thus far, however, no proceedings have been instituted. I would state that whenever a test has been made that was not satisfactory, the company for whom the test was made, has always manifested a desire and endeavored to remedy whatever was the cause reporting their gas up to standard, as soon as possible.

During the year the usual number of tests of the illuminating value and purity of the gas of our various Gas Companies have been made with the following general results.

THE GAS OF THE OLD COMPANY NOT GOOD.

The gas of the Pittsburgh Gas Company this year, and more especially the latter part, has not been by any means as good as during the first six years of my term of office. The first test made this year showed an illuminating value of just fifteen candles with sulphur present in small quantities, at no other time during the year have I been able to obtain as satisfactory results as this, it only ranging from fourteen to fourteen and one-half candle power. The cause of this explained by the officers of the company in this way: The consumption has increased so rapidly, as to render it almost impossible to supply the demand with the present works, and in order to meet this they have had to tear down part of the present works so as to more orally increase their production. They claim that as soon as they can get their alterations completed, which will be some time in December next, they will then be able to furnish as good a quality of gas as they ever did, which has been, until this year, as good as could be desired.

THE EAST END COMPANY.

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ELDERSVILLE TRAGEDY.

A Compliment to a Pittsburgh Detective.

The New York *Times* of Saturday pays the following deserved compliment to officer Joseph S. Cupples, who so speedily tracked up the murderer of Mr. Allingham, in Eldersville:

One of those old stories, which always seem new in their details, is found in the facts of the recent tragedy at Eldersville, Pennsylvania, where an old man named Allingham was murdered in his bed under circumstances of peculiar atrocity. The murderer had crept up to the window opening into the victim's room to a platform outside, to which he had attached his crude firearm, which was only a piece of pipe, heavily loaded with powder and slugs and fired by a fuse. Having lighted this the assassin fled, and was out of sight when the explosion occurred which alarmed the villagers who rushed to the house to find Allingham mangled almost beyond recognition. The murderous machine had been fixed with deadly aim, and the slugs had shattered the victim's head, causing instant death.

The villagers, were, of course, appalled by an event like this, and we are unable to even conjecture who had committed the deed. At its first glance the case did not seem promising to detective Cupples, who was summoned from Pittsburgh to take it in hand. But suspicion fell upon a colored carpenter named Briceland, because he was known as a bitter enemy of Allingham, and the detective then had little difficulty in tracing the crime to its author. Picking up bits of wood used in the manufacture of the weapon, he found the pieces from which they had been cut in the shop of the victim miles away, in which search he found a piece of pipe identical with that used in the murder. Scraps of leather and twine were also found, which became important witnesses in the case. The accused, like all burglers in crime, was provided with an *alibi*, and proved that he had gone to bed at 9 o'clock on the night of the homicide, and had not got up until the usual hour next morning. But the detective examined the house with such care that the shadow of his room opened upon a field, and found marks upon the window-sill and sash of the room which could have been made by a person clambering in and out of the window.

With the discovery of these facts, and the fitting of Briceland's boots into the tracks made about the scene of the murder, the case was regarded as complete, and we are not surprised that the suspected man was committed for trial. The case is deserving of public notice, not so much on account of the calculating malignity shown in the perpetration of the murder, as because of the fact that a detective has been found to devote himself with intelligence and zeal to the apprehension of a murderer. To a majority of the detectives, a case of such apparent difficulty as this tragedy, which, in case of success, could offer no other reward than a sense of duty performed, would not have claimed or received any extraordinary exertion. If the assassins of New York were followed with that zealous common sense which has been shown in this case, our records would not be disgraced every year by nearly half a score of cases where the criminals are never discovered.

A BITTER LIFE.

How a Father, Stepmother and Aunt Abused a Girl.

Some days ago it was noticed that Joseph Chambers had applied to the Court of Common Pleas, for a writ of *habeas corpus* to compel Samuel Yalton and William Hare to produce the body of his daughter Mary Jane, aged fifteen years, it being alleged that the parties named had illegally restrained her of her liberty, and kept her from the approval of her father. On Saturday morning the respondents appeared in court in answer to the writ, having the girl in custody. They made answer to the Court that Mary Jane's hambers was not restrained of her liberty, but was free from duress both in mind and body. In other words, that Mary Jane was not held by her father's house on account of ill treatment, and sought the protection of Wm. D. Haye et al., creditors of Harve, and her aunt, Mrs. Yalton—the wives of the respective respondents. They admitted that they had given Mary Jane money, but claimed that it was legally and morally justified in doing so. An affidavit signed by the girl was also presented in which upon her minds that should an error be made in taking the stated to the Court that she was free from duress, but considering that the irregularities thus caused in the consumer, but also in the minds of consumers as to the correctness of their bills, are numerous, and the dissatisfaction which the gas company are wanting in honesty.

In order this work may be accomplished to the Gas Inspector it would necessitate quite a large number of deputies, and would, therefore, greatly increase the responsibilities and expenses of the office. I do not think it could be so systematized as to work very satisfactorily in the Gas Inspector's office.

PHOTOMETRIC AND METER TESTS.

The Inspector then states that he has found renewed difficulty in testing the quality of the gas—several of the companies having failed to have proper rooms and instruments prepared for that purpose. He will be obliged to ask the County Commissioners this year for a sum sufficient to procure all necessary apparatus to make satisfactory tests and have furnished by those companies neglecting to furnish the same. He has furnished the Fort Pitt Gas Company, the Sharpsburg and Etna Gas Company, and the McKeesport Gas Company. The tests of the gas furnished by the Western Company was made by means of the photometer of the Pittsburgh Gas Company, which has been taken to the office in a portable gas holder. The trials were by no means satisfactory, but on account of that could be made under the circumstances. The Pittsburgh Gas Company, the Allegheny Gas Company and the Citizens' Gas Company have the apparatus for testing. Next year there will be three more companies in the county. The Consolidated Gas Company, the West Side Gas Company, and the Brickyard Gas Company. These will make nine companies in all in the county. The meters of the new companies have all been tested from the time they went in use, and the duties of the office are thereby considerably increased, the Inspector fears that before long the salary of the office will be consumed in paying the deputies required to test the meters.

NO WAY TO PUNISH GAS COMPANIES FOR MAKING IMPURE GAS.

Upon this subject the Inspector says:

The law as it now stands is an operating inflicts a penalty of five hundred dollars upon any gas company which shall not furnish pure gas, and of a standard illuminating value of fifteen candles, but it does not indict as to who shall indict, or prosecute for this penalty, that being a matter of law. I have been required to pay the penalty, although, in several instances, some of our gas companies were sure. Liable fail, for negligence on the part of the above requirements. I have felt that my duty has been, under the present law, to do nothing any negligence on the part of any gas company in complying with the law, to report such neglect, and then should any consumer bring suit for damages in the courts as Inspector would be brought into requisition, and if proved that the gas company has failed to comply with the law, the penalty would be inflicted. Thus far, however, no proceedings have been instituted. I would state that whenever a test has been made that was not satisfactory, the company for whom the test was made, has always manifested a desire and endeavored to remedy whatever was the cause reporting their gas up to standard, as soon as possible.

During the year the usual number of tests of the illuminating value and purity of the gas of our various Gas Companies have been made with the following general results.

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COURT PROCEEDINGS.

Quarter Sessions—Judge Stowe.

Sentence were passed upon a number of offenders convicted in this Court during the present term, as follows:

ROBERT Brown, assault and battery, fined $5 and costs.

JOHN Graham, who plead guilty to receiving stolen goods, was sent to the workhouse for a year.

HENRY Broser, who burned the barn of Charles Miller, of Shaler township, because Mr. Miller discharged him from his employ, was sent to the penitentiary for five years and six months.

The boys John Roe and John Doe convicted of the larceny of a sum of money, were ordered to the House of Refuge.

JOHN Coulis, convicted of two charges of larceny, was sentenced to the county jail for twenty-four hours in the one case, and to the penitentiary for one year and six months in the other.

JOHN Thomas, for aggravated assault and battery on Catharine Fox, was sent three months to the workhouse.

HENRY Smith, convicted of fornication, was sentenced to pay a fine of one dollar and costs.

KATE Ralph, for larceny, was committed to jail for three months.

In the case of Edward O'Neil, charged with breach of the peace, the prosecutor failed to appear and he was ordered to pay the costs.

In the case of E. S. Kane and Donald Cameron, charged with firing a gunshot into a passenger car on the West Penn Railroad, the jury found a verdict of not guilty as to Kane, and guilty as to Cameron, with a recommendation to the mercy of the Court. Cameron was sent to the workhouse for one year.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

Commonwealth Appeal.

George Kingsland, Joseph King, Martin Kuhn, Henry De Boor, Laura Adley, Frank Gallagher, James Parker, Michael Mooney, Charles Reed, Vance DePaolis, Frederick W. Calmer, John Reight, William Bowers,

Samuel Bell, Frank Whitehair, Mary Donnison, John T. Butler, John Heanison, Charles Smith, Louisa Dunhmann, et al, A. J. Baird, Wm. Jine Herrott, Geo. McFarland, William Fish, John Jones, et al.]

Common Pleas—Judges Sterrett and Collier.

In the case of Ackermann vs. The Pennsylvania Railroad Company, lessees of the West Penn Railroad, the jury found for the plaintiff the sum of $800. A motion was made for a new trial.

Under the act of Assembly of last winter giving married women the right to their separate earnings, in filing a petition to that effect in the court of Common Pleas, Mrs. Martha Beckett, Juliana Cappell and Elizabeth Wells filed the necessary papers, which were ordered to be placed on record.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

180. Logan vs. Howley.
176. Guffey vs. Pierce.
215. Smith & Co. vs. Coursin & Dixon.
216. Luther vs. Cavitt et al.
26. Ocean National Bank vs. Mannis.
29. Gledstone vs. McClune et al.
33. Graight vs. Herron.
34. Crozier vs. Lewis.
35. Lang & Pollard vs. McMahan.

District Court—Judges Hampton and Kirkpatrick.

Nothing of importance was transacted in this court on Saturday. Following is the

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

94. Hutchinson vs. Indiana Township.
96. Buentes vs. Walter.
9. Buente & Co. vs. Walter.
167. Weisenberger vs. Ratman.
99. McGowan vs. Steamer "Belle."
116. Burke vs. Wilmoth.
19. Hinckenstein vs. Calhoun & Co
90. Same vs. Same.

United States District Court—Judge McCandless.

Henry J. Miller, of Somerset, presented a petition for discharge in bankruptcy, and the usual order was made for a final hearing.

The petition of Wm. D. Haye et al., creditors of Azariah Dunham, of Somerset county, bankrupt, for the payment of their debts as preferred claims, was referred to Register Edgerton, that he may report thereon to Court. Hon. Henry W. Hoffman, of Connellsville, Maryland, was appointed examiner to take testimony for the assistance of said Register in making his report.

In the case of the United States vs. the Distillery (84), owned by Valentine Craft, of Greene county, in which the District Attorney, and after proclamation was made, the property mentioned in the information was forfeited to the United States, and a verdict for the same rendered accordingly.

An information in a cause of forfeiture was filed by the District Attorney against 1,000 boxes of cheroots claimed by John Gibson, Son & Co., of the Pittsburgh Collection District, and a writ of attachment and monition ordered to issue.

Henry P. Miller, of Luzerne county, filed a petition of application for himself in bankruptcy. Referred to Register Willard, of Scranton.

Burglaries.

A mysterious robbery was perpetrated at Shiraid, this county, on Friday morning. At break of day Mr. J. W. Grey, counted his money, $700 in cash, and put the same with a check for two promissory notes in a wallet within his secretary. He returned about eleven o'clock the same morning to get it but it was gone. It is believed that as the curtain of the window was raised when he counted the money, some person saw him, and when he left the room the party returned and secured the prize.

There were also two burglaries committed at Homewood some time during Friday night. The house first visited was that of Mr. Stewart, which the thieves effected an entrance by breaking out a pane of glass in a window. They entered his bed room, and carried off clothing to the amount of $60. Money was not detected, as some article had been accidentally removed from its usual place. The second house visited was that of R. L. Fahnestock, but save a small box of children's toys nothing was carried off.

BILLIARDS.

**Opening of the Finest